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METRO COUNTS DOWN THE YEAR'S TEN BEST **PAGE 21**



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# Coun. Eadie applauds RCMP probe

**Police HQ audit.**  
City seeks info from lawyers and RCMP about dealings with Caspian Construction

**BERNICE PONTANILLA**  
bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

A city councillor is hopeful an RCMP investigation into the Winnipeg police headquarters project will include documents auditors may not have had access to, or wasn't in their scope.

"Our auditors only looked at the public side documents, so what we now have is an actual investigation into the private records," said Coun. Ross Eadie.

"It could also lead to individuals on the city side's private records."

Eadie has long been a critic of how real estate deals and projects were handled under ex-CAO Phil Sheegl and former mayor Sam Katz.

"On the public side,



Coun. Ross Eadie supports an RCMP investigation into the dealings surrounding the Police HQ audit. JAMES TURNER/FOR METRO

there were some activities that could lead to a need to do some investigation

on the private side and the RCMP are doing (that)," added Eadie.

Mayor Brian Bowman, who was in full campaign mode back in July when

that vote took place, applauded the move on Wednesday.

"Absolutely they did the right thing, I fully support it," he said. "Council was obviously concerned enough that they felt it necessary to refer this matter to the province and, in turn, as we know, it's gone to the RCMP."

Asked if city deals with Caspian — which recently bought the Kenaston snow dumpsite for \$5.2 million and is tasked with more repairs on the police HQ — should be put on ice for now, Bowman said he "wouldn't rule anything out, but we've already engaged legal counsel" and they're seeking additional information from the RCMP.

Back in August, mayoral candidate Paula Havixbeck held a news conference to announce that if elected, she'd instruct the city to halt all real estate deals with companies mentioned in the audits until the RCMP completed its review.

"I cannot, as a councillor, in good faith, approve of this ... given that this review is underway," said the former councillor, in reference to the Kenaston snow dump sale to Caspian.

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# Next Winnipeg CAO needs big-city experience: Expert

## Replacing Sheegl.

Candidates from private sector will be frustrated by 'glacial pace' of city governance: Consultant

COLIN FAST &  
BERNICE PONTANILLA  
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Winnipeg's next chief administrative officer needs to have a track record running big cities, not big business, according to the man who helped create the position.

"As much as people think you should be able to go into the private sector to find someone, generally that doesn't work well," said government consultant George Cuff, whose 1997 report to city council led to a major restructuring of the civic administration.

"Managers who are used to the private sector are going to find the glacial pace of city government very frustrating," he explained.

Former CAO Phil Sheegl —

who resigned in October 2013 prior to the release of the fire hall audit — was criticized by some councillors for not having enough municipal experience when he was promoted to the top job after a brief stint as the city's property director.

Finding the right person to permanently replace Sheegl — and deal with the fallout from three audits on real estate deals and projects that have turned into RCMP investigations — is top of mind for Mayor Brian Bowman.

"There's a whole matrix that we've been developing in terms of the job skills set that we're looking for in the next CAO, it's pretty comprehensive and we've been having some really good meetings on that front," Bowman said on Wednesday.

With a new mayor and a substantially revamped council, Cuff said the timing is ideal for Winnipeg to hire a new top administrator.

"You can't have a functional city government if the mayor and CAO are on different pages," he said. "That marriage is critical."



Mayor Brian Bowman — for whom finding the right person to permanently replace former CAO Phil Sheegl is top of mind — talks to media on Wednesday. SAMANTHA SAMSON/FOR METRO

## Selinger prepared to do battle to keep his job

Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger says he will fight to the end to keep his job despite record-low poll numbers, opponents within his own ranks and the loss of some key advisers.

Selinger, who is essentially having to reapply to be NDP leader after a caucus revolt, said he does not want to leave.

"I received a mandate from the people of Manitoba to serve

their priorities, and that's your objective, is to be here every day to do that and to make sure that we accomplish what we set out to do," Selinger said in a year-end interview this week.

"We're getting good results with a strong economy, with a growing population," he said. "Let's keep the ball rolling in the right direction, and the way to do that is to have continuity

in government."

Selinger has been on the defensive since October when five of his most senior cabinet ministers and other party members suggested that he consider quitting in light of low poll numbers and continued public anger over last year's increase in the provincial sales tax.

Selinger has challenged his critics to run against him at the

NDP's annual convention on March 8 under a little-used section of the party's constitution that allows for a leadership contest at any convention.

Party officials have laid out ground rules for the race that include a \$2,000 entry fee, filling out an application and getting 50 signatures of support.

Being premier doesn't exclude Selinger from the re-

quirements and he said he will file nomination papers before the Jan. 6 deadline.

A candidate needs only one vote more than 50 per cent to win. Selinger would not say whether that would be enough for him to continue.

"I don't want to speculate, but (50 per cent) is the rules, and we'll be following the rules." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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1 NEWS



# U.S. program could mean windfall for Winnipeg-made Ebola vaccine

**Merck.** Monetary gains can be huge for company that can develop and register vaccine with FDA

Earlier this week, U.S. President Barack Obama signed into law a little piece of legislation that may significantly change the economics of making drugs or vaccines to protect against Ebola and other viruses in its deadly family.

And it might at some point provide a tidy windfall for Merck, the company now developing an Ebola vaccine designed at Canada's National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg.

The bill — S.2917, also known as Adding Ebola to the FDA Priority Review Voucher Program Act — dangles a sizable carrot meant to entice



A Guinea health worker removes a mattress at an Ebola treatment centre in Conakry. CELLOU BINANI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

pharmaceutical companies into developing vaccines and therapies to prevent or cure infection with the virus and other related pathogens in the filovirus family.

Companies that manage to license an Ebola therapeutic in the United States are now eligible for a priority review voucher from the Food and Drug Administration — which

is in effect a promise from the agency that it will swiftly process a future drug or vaccine approval application.

In late November, Merck bought the licence to develop

the Winnipeg Ebola vaccine for \$50 million from NewLink Genetics, which acquired it in 2010 for \$205,000. A priority review voucher would likely be worth more than double Merck's outlay, say those watching the program to see if it leads to the advances it is meant to inspire.

"If they get a priority review voucher, they could totally get more than that," says Judit Rius Sanjuan of Medecins Sans Frontieres — also known as Doctors Without Borders. "If they get a vaccine and they register the vaccine with the FDA, they could get much more than that."

"The monetary gains could be huge. Much more than \$125 million," says Rius Sanjuan, who is the U.S. manager and legal policy adviser for MSF's access campaign, which pushes for the development of drugs needed by low income countries, at prices those countries can afford.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Acquiring licence

### Merck says it had a higher motive

Merck declined to do an interview about the addition of Ebola to the priority review voucher system. But a spokesperson for the company, Pamela Eisele, says the voucher program was not the reason the company acquired the licence for the Canadian Ebola vaccine. "The reason Merck got involved was to apply our experience and expertise to address an important and urgent public health crisis."

Interestingly, the licence Merck acquired in November may actually put it in a position to earn more than one priority review voucher.

The company did not just buy the licence for a vaccine to protect against Ebola Zaire, the subtype of the virus responsible for the current outbreak. It bought the rights to a vaccine platform which could be used to make vaccines to protect against other dangerous viruses.

## U.S. embargo on Cuba still a concern: Winnipegger

### Cautious optimism

"Everybody is really excited but they're also cautious, not wary, but just saying, 'now let's see what happens next,' cause they don't really know."

Diane Zack, a local member of the Manitoba-Cuba Solidarity Committee.

A local member of the Manitoba-Cuba Solidarity Committee said she's taking a wait-and-see approach to the news that the United States is re-establishing diplomatic ties with Cuba.

On Wednesday, U.S. President Barack Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro held concurrent news conferences to announce the thawing of relations.

This announcement was accompanied by a quiet exchange of imprisoned spies and the celebratory release of American Alan Gross, a government contract worker who had been held in Cuba for five years.

Diane Zack, a semi-retired teacher who joined the solidarity committee in the early 1990s, said when she first heard the news, she immediately thought of the remaining members of the "Cuban Five," who were jailed in Florida as spies, but are seen as heroes on the Caribbean island.

"This first step was the prisoner exchange, when I heard that Alan Gross had been released, I knew that

the remaining members of the Cuban Five would be released also," said Zack, in reference to the previous release of two members of the Cuban Five who completed their sentences.

"We had been hoping for that for years now, so that was really good news."

Zack said she's spoken to friends in Cuba and they see this development as positive for their economy, which has been severely hampered by the U.S. embargo on Cuba, which Zack calls a "blockade."

"(The blockade) is so much integrated into every

aspect of economic life in Cuba that when they've tried to give it a dollar value, it's in the multi-billions of dollars in lost economy to them," said Zack, adding U.S. laws have prevented companies — even some Canadian ones with ties to the U.S. — from conducting business there.

"Everybody is really excited but they're also cautious, not wary, but just saying, 'now let's see what happens next,' cause they don't really know."

Despite Obama's declaration, the Cuba embargo was passed by Congress, and only lawmakers can revoke it. That appears unlikely to happen soon given the largely negative response to Obama's actions from Republicans who will take full control of Capitol Hill in January.

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO, WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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## Celebrating Munsch

Andrea Houssin is the Paper Bag Princess in Prairie Theatre Exchange's (PTE) *Munsch Upon a Time*. For 25 years PTE has been celebrating Robert Munsch's works, and this year's celebration starts on Friday. **BRUCE MONK/PTE**

### Drug bust

## Arrests made in Boyd Avenue grow-op raid

Two people are facing a series of drug-related charges after police raided a Boyd Avenue house Wednesday.

Inside the house, police found 167 pot plants worth \$187,040, more than 12 pounds of dry

pot worth \$31,250, about \$6,000 in growing equipment and \$17,000 in cash during the raid.

A man, 42, and a woman, 32, are facing charges of Produce a Scheduled Substance, Possession of a Scheduled Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking and Possession of Proceeds of Property Obtained by Crime.

Both people were arrested and released on a promise to appear. **METRO**

### Fire fatalities inquest

## First Nation homes can be checked without evictions: fire commissioner

Manitoba's fire commissioner says some fatal fires in aboriginal communities could be prevented by regular informal inspections that wouldn't risk a large number of homes being condemned.

David Schafer told an inquest examining two fires on northern reserves that such inspections could look for fire hazards that could be "easy fixes" such as ensuring people have working smoke alarms.

The chief of St. Theresa Point First Nation told the inquest this week he was wary home inspections would result in many of the reserve's homes being condemned.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# Initiative helps youth secure future

### Momentum Centre.

\$900k partnership with the provincial and federal governments will help remove youth employment barriers



Minister Kevin Chief claps after Alicia Pifer tells her story to media Thursday. **SAMATHAN SAMSON/FOR METRO**

The Momentum Centre on Main Street will see \$900,000 over the next three years thanks to a partnership with the province and the feds.

The two levels of government made the announcement on Thursday, calling it the Work Experience pilot program.

"The Momentum Centre, and organizations like it remove barriers that hinder participation in a very practical way, but in a very sensitive way as well," said Jobs and the Economy Minister Kevin Chief.

The Momentum Centre is a training facility helping Aboriginal and new Canadian youth find meaningful and long term careers, according to their website.

Dawn Rodgers, executive director of the program, said the funding will help pay par-

ticipants of the program for internships, which wouldn't exist otherwise.

Chief said in order for some people to overcome their obstacles, they need to be shown, not told, how to succeed.

"Although I had many different jobs, I was never able to work anywhere permanently," said Alicia Pifer, a former program participant and success story. "I was unsure of what career path I wanted to take."

"The work and support I received was unlike anything else I had ever experienced."

"For the first time, I'm confident in the direction my career is headed. I've made a commitment to lead a healthy life and for the first time in 12 years I am self-sustaining and off of EI."

**EVAN MATTHEWS/FOR METRO**

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# Tories, NDP consider federal fallout from Alberta's political earthquake

Federal Conservatives say they're gobsmacked over the political tectonic shifts in Alberta this week, but they don't have to reach too far into their own history to see parallels with the political pragmatism that's at play.

Wildrose Party Leader Danielle Smith crossed the floor this week with eight MLAs to

join the majority Progressive Conservative government. Federal members of Parliament — many of whom supported Wildrose — were caught off guard by the move.

Some observers have pointed to Wildrose's disappointing showing in recent byelections as the catalyst for her startling decision.

And so it was in 2003, when a relatively new Canadian Alliance Leader Stephen Harper lost a key byelection to the Progressive Conservatives, who were in fifth place nationally at the time.

Harper spent countless hours campaigning with the candidate to no avail. Harper's spokesman, Jason MacDonald,

suggested Wednesday that Smith's move had the PM's approval. Harper has dissuaded his MPs from campaigning for one Alberta party or another.

NDP MP Linda Duncan said the fact Prentice took in nine MLAs from the right-wing Wildrose party suggests his party is not progressive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Laura Miller, who was former Ontario premier Dalton McGuinty's chief of staff, is seen in an undated Facebook photo with Peter Faist, who police allege was paid \$10,000 in 2013 to erase Ontario government hard drives in the midst of an investigation over the controversial cancellation of an expensive gas-plant project. FACEBOOK.COM

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Manitoba



## Liberals paid expert to wipe drives: OPP

**McGuinty era.** Top aide's spouse paid \$10,000 to wipe computer hard drives in McGuinty's office, court documents allege

June 2010-March 2014

Documents show Faist's company was paid \$224,000 by the Ontario Liberal Party and the Liberal caucus service bureau between June 2010 and March 2014.

- Search warrants served last month sought the entire email boxes for Livingston and Miller.

The Ontario Liberal caucus paid the spouse of a top aide to Dalton McGuinty \$10,000 to wipe computer hard drives in the premier's office, police alleged in court documents released Thursday.

The information used by Ontario Provincial Police to obtain a search warrant that was executed in November at a provincial government cyber security office in Toronto was made public after media lawyers requested it be unsealed.

The warrant is part of an OPP investigation into deleted documents on the Liberals' decision to cancel two gas plants prior to the 2011 election, at a cost to taxpayers of up to \$1.1 billion.

Computer expert Peter Faist was asked by his spouse, Laura Miller, "to wipe off per-

sonal data on approximately 20 desktop computers in the premier's office," alleges Det.-Const. Andre Duval in his application for the warrant.

"Faist was under the impression that Cabinet Office was aware of his presence and the work requested of him," wrote Duval. "He was paid an amount of \$10,000 by the Liberal caucus for his work."

Miller was McGuinty's deputy chief of staff under David Livingston, who is being investigated by the OPP for alleged breach of trust. No charges have been laid, and Livingston says he has not done wrong.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



# IRFAN fights terrorist label, can't canvass

## Fundraising.

Public Safety minister denies group permission to raise funds for its legal fees

## Disagreement

IRFAN-Canada argues the anti-terrorism law doesn't prohibit it from collecting funds for the sole purpose of retaining legal counsel.

An organization that was formally branded a terrorist group last spring has been denied permission by Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney to raise money to fight the move.

The Canadian branch of the International Relief Fund for the Afflicted and Needy is asking the Federal Court of Canada to set aside Blaney's decision as unconstitutional and affirm its right to solicit funds to pay a lawyer.

The group, known as IRFAN-Canada, was stripped of its charitable status three years ago. In April, the government added the group to its list of terrorist organizations, saying that between 2005 and 2009 IRFAN-Canada transferred about \$14.6 million worth of resources to various organizations with links to Hamas.

Any person or group on Canada's terrorist list may have their assets seized, and there are criminal penalties for aiding listed entities with the aim of helping them carry out extremist activities.

That means people are afraid to donate money to the group's legal defence for fear of being prosecuted, said lawyer Yavar Hameed, who is not currently being paid for representing IRFAN-Canada.

"It's sort of a new level of absurdity," he said Thursday in an interview.

The federal anti-terrorism provisions recognize the seriousness of being listed as an extremist entity, but do not ensure a group can actually respond to the accusation, Hameed said. "That contradiction is very stark."

In an application filed in Federal Court, IRFAN-Canada says that "out of an abundance of caution" it asked Blaney to confirm this position, or at least grant an exemption so it could raise funds to cover the legal costs of its pending challenge.

The request was informed in part by word from the RCMP to IRFAN-Canada that any funds held in trust for legal services would be frozen and "could not be dealt with" unless a ministerial exemption or court order was granted, the application says. Blaney told the group late last month he would not authorize an exemption.

In the court application, IRFAN-Canada says Blaney's decision violates Charter of Rights guarantees of fundamental justice, full answer and defence, and the right to retain and instruct counsel. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# Fewer in-person hearings at gov't tribunal

The government's critically backlogged social security tribunal has been working to reduce the number of in-person hearings for jobless, ailing or injured Canadians denied employment insurance or Canada Pension Plan disability benefits.

But government statistics show those vulnerable Canadians are much more likely to successfully appeal those decisions when they meet face-to-face with tribunal

members rather than having their hearings held over the telephone or via videoconference.

In-person hearings for those appealing income security decisions, mostly CPP disability cases, had a 61 per cent success rate compared to 42 per cent for teleconferences in the tribunal's first 18 months of operation, the government revealed in recent responses to order paper questions from the NDP.

For those appealing employment insurance decisions, the success rate was double that of in-person hearings — 48 per cent succeeded, compared with 24 per cent who have their appeals heard via teleconference or videoconference.

Richard Beaulne, spokesman for the tribunal, said the type of hearing held has no bearing on the final decision.

"Members make their decisions following a complete

analysis of the evidence, submissions and applicable legislative provisions presented by the parties," he said Thursday. The tribunal also decides on a case-by-case basis what type of hearing will be held, Beaulne added. In a letter, Service Canada said it was trying to reduce the number of in-person hearings.

NDP MP Jinny Sims said the government has to come up with other ways to cut the backlog. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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# Feds confirm plans for wireless auction

**Attracting carriers.** Wireless auction will reserve much of new spectrum for carriers other than the Big Three

The federal government confirmed Thursday that a forthcoming wireless auction will reserve more than half of the new spectrum for carriers other than the Big Three — Rogers, Bell and Telus.

Industry Minister James Moore released the details for the auction of AWS-3 spectrum, or advanced wireless services, which is scheduled to begin March 3. The final technical document largely mirrored what the government had already foreshadowed during consultations. Most notably, 60 per cent of the available spectrum will be reserved for smaller carriers, while the remaining 40 per cent will be available to all applicants.

Moore lauded Canada's

three major carriers for providing world-class service, but he said consumers need more competition.

"But while we put more spectrum in the marketplace than ever before, we have a coherent and consistent policy to ensure we reserve more capacity for more competition in the wireless marketplace, which of course will result in lower prices and a better quality of services for Canadian consumers," Moore said at an event in Vancouver.

The government has been attempting to use its wireless auctions to foster competition, but new entrants have struggled and the three national carriers continue to represent 90 per cent of Canada's wireless customer base.

Moore confirmed the AWS-3 auction will maintain the same opening bid prices that were announced earlier this year. Industry Canada says it would raise \$162.45 million from the auction if it receives just the minimum bid for each parcel of wireless spectrum.

## Previous auctions

Earlier this year, the government held an auction of prime 700 MHz spectrum, which raised \$5.27 billion.

- However, Rogers Communications, BCE Inc. and Telus bought the bulk of the available licences, with regional players also making smaller acquisitions.
- Wind Mobile, which is attempting to position itself to become a fourth national carrier, couldn't secure funding to bid.
- Wind's CEO has said the next step is to acquire more wireless spectrum.

The minister also used Thursday's announcement to reveal several other measures intended to increase capacity, including a contentious plan to allow mobile service on a band used by rural wireless Internet service. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



## Mathemagician on display at National Gallery

A reporter looks at an artwork by artist M.C. Escher on display at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa Thursday, during a media preview of M.C. Escher: the Mathemagician. The show runs from Dec. 20 to May 3. The pieces pictured are Sky and Water I, left, and Metamorphosis (Bees), right. **SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## No verdict

### Magnotta jury heads into another day of deliberations

Day 3 of jury deliberations at Luka Rocco Magnotta's murder trial came and went Thursday without a verdict.

The jurors will be back for

a fourth day on Friday.

Magnotta is charged with first-degree murder and four other charges in the slaying and dismemberment of Chinese engineering student Jun Lin in May 2012.

Magnotta, 32, has pleaded not guilty by way of mental disorder and is seeking to be found not criminally responsible. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Report:

### Only about 1/3 of organ donors end up donating

While thousands of Canadians wait for transplants that could alter or save their lives, many potentially willing organ donors are never identified

or don't make it through the complex donation process, says a report by the Canadian Institute for Health Information released Thursday. The director of health system analysis at CIHI says that by conservative estimates, "only about one-third of people who are clinically eligible to donate an organ actually become a donor." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## 90-day jail term

### Woman sentenced for fatal crash while helping ducks

A widow whose husband and daughter were killed when their motorcycle crashed into a woman's car as she helped ducks on a highway is satis-

fied with the accused's 90-day prison term.

Emma Czornobaj will serve her jail sentence on weekends.

After Czornobaj stopped her car in June 2010 to rescue ducklings on the side of the highway, the motorcycle carrying Andre Roy and his daughter Jessie slammed into her vehicle. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Fuel prices at a gas station in Toronto earlier this month. The average cost of a litre of gas in Canada has dropped below \$1 for the first time in more than four years, according to GasBuddy.com. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

## Gas below \$1 for first time since 2010

### But not for long.

Prices are expected to increase by up to two cents per litre by Friday

The average cost of a litre of gasoline in Canada has dropped below \$1 for the first time in nearly four-and-a-half years, according to price monitoring website GasBuddy.com.

While many locations across the country have seen prices below that mark for a couple of weeks, Thursday was the first time since Aug. 30, 2010, that the average dipped to 99.9 cents.

In a statement, the website operator says Thursday also marked the 77th consecutive day that the national average has declined.

GasBuddy says average prices are about 28 per cent below the peak of \$1.39, reached on June 22.

To put that in perspective for the average motorist using 80 litres of gasoline per week, the savings between the June peak price and Thursday's

### By city

- Edmonton residents are experiencing the lowest average prices by metropolitan area, at 81.8 cents.
- Quebec motorists are still paying more than \$1, with the average cost of a litre of regular in Montreal and Quebec City down to 109.5 and 108.4 cents respectively.

average works out to between \$35 and \$40 weekly.

The milestone may be short-lived, however, as prices are expected to increase by up to two cents per litre in many parts of the country by Friday.

GasBuddy senior petroleum analyst Dan McTeague says it's anyone's guess where prices will go next.

Alberta typically enjoys the lowest fuel prices in the country. The province's average pump price currently sits at 88.1 cents.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## CF-18s bomb enemy targets in Iraq

Canadian warplanes have been in action in Iraq once again, bombing enemy targets ahead of Kurdish Peshmerga forces, who are pushing to completely break the siege in the Sinjar mountains.

The region along the Syrian border was home to many members of the Yazidi minority before extremist fighters swept in last August, killing or abducting hundreds and prompting tens of thousands

of refugees to flee.

Col. Dan Constable, the commander of Canada's task force for the Iraq mission, says two CF-18s bombed an enemy position about 100 kilometres northwest of Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city.

The extremists had erected "defensive fighting positions and safe havens, places where they can engage from," Constable said in a teleconference from an undisclosed

base in Kuwait.

It is part of a stepped-up air campaign by the U.S.-led coalition battling militants from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant. The coalition carried out 61 strike missions from Dec. 15 to 17.

Since beginning combat operations in late October, the CF-18s have flown a total 130 sorties and carried out nine bombing runs.

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RCAF CF-18 Hornets.  
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## Europe. Obesity can be a disability, EU court rules

The European Court of Justice says obesity can be a disability, a ruling that could have consequences for employers across the continent.

The court ruled Thursday in the case of a Danish child-minder who says he was unfairly fired for being fat.

The court said if obesity hinders "full and effective participation in professional life," it could count as a disability. Discrimination on the grounds of disability is illegal under European Union law.

Karsten Kaltoft worked as a childminder for 15 years for the Municipality of Billund in Denmark before he was dis-

### Weight

# 159 kg

Karsten Kaltoft, who weighed 159 kilograms, says he was fired from his job as a childminder for being obese.

missed in 2010.

Kaltoft, who weighed 159 kilograms, says he was fired for being obese, a claim his employer contests.

The court says it was for Danish courts to decide whether Kaltoft's obesity constituted a disability.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Hidden cocaine

## Coffee shipment packs an extra kick

A Berlin coffee business found stimulants it didn't expect in a shipment of unroasted coffee from Brazil: 33 kilos of cocaine.

Police in the German capital said Thursday that

employees at the coffee-roasting business found the bag full of the drug when they opened a newly arrived container of coffee. They then contacted authorities.

The delivery was shipped from Brazil to the German North Sea port of Bremerhaven on its way to Berlin.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# 'Ugly' Charlie Brown Christmas tree gets the Peanuts treatment



Coun. Jeff Waltman photographs the city's official Christmas tree last week in Reading, Pa. Waltman fought to save the 50-foot Norway spruce that many compared to the spindly tree in A Charlie Brown Christmas. The city is now embracing the theme. MICHAEL RUBINKAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Norway spruce.** Once rejected and shamed, tree becomes symbol of Christmas' imperfection

The official Christmas tree of Reading, Pa., has brought the city plenty of grief. Good grief.

When the 50-foot Norway spruce went up last month, it drew immediate comparisons to the scraggly sapling in A Charlie Brown Christmas. Its giant bare spots and asymmetrical branches were no one's idea of Christmas tree perfection — especially in Pennsylvania, one of the largest producers of Christmas

trees in the United States.

Some residents and officials called it an embarrassment and demanded it be replaced. Instead, Reading decided to embrace the Charlie Brown theme.

Workers wrapped a blue blanket around its base — a la Linus — and adorned it with a single red ball. The city announced a worldwide photo and essay contest, with winners to receive copies of the book version of the beloved TV special. And on Saturday, the public is invited to give the tree a makeover, just like the Peanuts gang surprised Charlie Brown by turning his puny pine into a trimmed, twinkling tannenbaum.

"Christmas is so commercialized that we tend to forget what Christmases used to be like," said Mayor Vaughn Spencer, channeling good ol' Charlie Brown himself.

Coun. Jeff Waltman said the conifer symbolizes Reading itself: full of potential and ready for transformation.

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### Message

"Sometimes we have to keep things in perspective, and I think that's the lesson here."

Reading, Pa., Mayor Vaughn Spencer

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# Putin warns West it can't rein in Russia

**Hard liner.** Russian President says he'll shore up the ruble and revive the economy within two years

Sternly warning the West it cannot defang the metaphorical Russian bear, a confident-

looking President Vladimir Putin promised Thursday to shore up the plummeting ruble and revive the economy within two years.

While he issued a litany of sharp rebukes against the West, Putin struck a conciliatory note on Ukraine, saying that the rebellious east should remain part of the country, backing a quick

## New sanctions

President Barack Obama signed legislation Thursday authorizing new sanctions on Russia but said he does not plan to impose the penalties outlined in the measure.

exchange of war prisoners

and praising his Ukrainian counterpart.

The mixture of blistering anti-Western rhetoric and constructive signals appeared to indicate that Putin is eager to negotiate a face-saving solution to the Ukrainian crisis, but has no intention of conceding defeat in his stand-off.

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President Vladimir Putin in front of the map of Russia. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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## Lawsuit

### U.S. sues New York City over Rikers Island issues

U.S. federal prosecutors sued New York City on Thursday to speed the pace of reforms at the Rikers Island jail complex and address what a Justice Department investigation found was a "deep-seated culture of violence" toward young inmates.

The move comes a day after Mayor Bill de Blasio visited the 10-jail lockup

to announce the end of solitary confinement for 16- and 17-year-old inmates, a policy change initiated after the 2-1/2-year federal probe released in August.

But the end of solitary was just one of 73 recommendations made by federal prosecutors to curb violence, improve investigations, strengthen accountability and reduce the use of solitary confinement for inmates who break jail-house rules. Court papers say despite negotiations the parties have been unable to reach agreement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Boston Marathon. Bombing suspect in court

Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev returned to court Thursday for the first time since he was arraigned in July 2013, and he received a shout of encouragement from the mother-in-law of a man who was shot and killed while being questioned by law enforcement after the bombings.

Security was tight at the federal courthouse in Boston for Tsarnaev's final pretrial conference.

Tensions ran high, and one bombing victim had a

testy exchange with protesters outside.

During the brief court hearing, U.S. District Court George O'Toole Jr. made no rulings, saying he would rule in writing on pending motions, including the defence's latest push to move the trial out of Boston.

David Bruck, one of Tsarnaev's lawyers, told the judge that the defence plans to file a motion to delay the trial, which is now scheduled to begin on Jan. 5 with jury selection.

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Bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev depicted in court. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# Drones: The new storm chasers

## Into the tornado.

Researchers want to expand project that uses drones to penetrate weather systems and collect tornado data

Researchers say they have collected promising weather data by flying instrument-laden drones into big Western and Midwestern storms, and now they want to expand the project in hopes of learning more about how tornadoes form.

Drones can penetrate parts of weather systems that other instruments can't reach, and they can do it at less cost and with less danger than piloted planes, the scientists say.

The University of Colorado and University of Nebraska announced they have formed the Unmanned Aircraft System and Severe Storms Research Group to develop the program. Here are some key questions and answers about the research:

### Why use drones?

Scientists have no other way to get instruments deep inside a storm. Drones can take measurements at any altitude up to about 2,500 feet — higher than measurements by ground stations and storm-chasing vehicles, said Adam Houston of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, who is co-director of the research group. Drones can cover more territory than a ground-based storm chaser,



A team of researchers from the University of Colorado and NOAA sample surface boundaries in the Pawnee National Grasslands near Grover, Colo., as a storm develops over Wyoming in June 2013. Nebraska researchers say they've collected promising weather data by flying instrument-laden drones into big storms and now they want to expand the project in hopes of learning how tornadoes form. NOAA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

and they don't need an airport to take off or land. A drone can fly into the strong winds, downdrafts, rain and hail of a powerful storm without putting a human pilot in danger.

### Don't they crash?

So far, none of the drones

have crashed during storm research, but if the scientists launch a more intensive program with more flights, crashes become more likely, said Eric Frew, director of the University of Colorado's Research and Engineering Center for Unmanned Vehicles and a member of the Severe Storms

Research Group.

### What kind of drones?

The aircraft are about five feet long and have a wingspan of about 10.5 feet. They carry instruments to measure temperature, moisture, wind direction and wind speed, trans-

mitting data to researchers on the ground via Wi-Fi. Including instruments, autopilot and communications gear, they cost \$30,000 to \$50,000 each. Making them storm-worthy increases the cost above other research drones, but piloted aircraft would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

### What do researchers learn?

Researchers try to fly the drones into supercell thunderstorms, which create tornadoes, but not into tornadoes themselves. The measurements taken inside a storm provide a "fingerprint" that can tell where the air inside a storm came from and what forced it there, Houston said. If that air becomes part of a tornado, the fingerprint can help researchers learn how the twister formed. The researchers also want to know if that information could help forecasters predict tornadoes.

### What have researchers already done?

Colorado and Nebraska researchers have flown drones into about 10 storms, including six supercell thunderstorms, since 2009. "Funding agencies didn't believe we could do it," Frew said. "We demonstrated that we could do it." The temperature and moisture data from those flights were good, but the wind measurements proved trickier, Houston said, and researchers are working on ways to improve them.

### What's next?

The team is looking for a government research grant of \$1 to \$1.5 million US for a two- or three-year project. They would make multiple trips into storm country during the May-June tornado season and analyze the data.

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# Abortion and life support clash in volatile Irish case

## Awaiting a verdict.

Legislators reject a motion to legalize but criticize current laws

Ireland is debating its ban on abortion again as doctors keep a brain-dead pregnant woman on life support, awaiting a judge's verdict on what to do with the living fetus.

Irish media reported Thursday that relatives want to turn off the woman's life-support systems but doctors are refusing because the law requires them to defend the right-to-life of her 16-week-old fetus. Fetuses typically cannot survive outside the womb until around 24 weeks.

An expert on Irish medical law, Dr. Adam McAuley, said Dublin High Court most likely would determine whether the woman will be kept alive artificially until the baby can be delivered. The case is scheduled for Tuesday.

"The law isn't clear, and when there is conflict, the matter will have to come before the court," said McAuley, a Dublin City University law lecturer.

Such disputes have become increasingly frequent in Ireland, a predominantly Catholic land. More than 4,000 women travel from Ireland to neighbouring England to receive abortions annually. That option doesn't exist for



Stephen and Pauline O'Brien, foreground, hold Catholic rosary beads as they march through Dublin in an anti-abortion protest on July 6, 2013. SHAWN POGATCHNIK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

ill women medically unable to leave the island.

Last year, after bitter debate, lawmakers amended Ireland's abortion ban to make terminations legal if doctors deem the woman's life at risk from continued pregnancy. That step had been delayed for two decades. It finally happened after an Indian woman died from blood poisoning linked to her own dying fetus; the Irish hospital had refused

her abortion pleas, citing the fetus' heartbeat.

An increasing number of legislators say Ireland should legalize abortions in cases involving rape, fatal fetal abnormalities or long-term health risks to the woman.

On Tuesday, lawmakers overwhelmingly rejected an opposition motion to legalize abortion outright. But to the surprise of government colleagues, Health Minister Leo

Varadkar criticized existing law as unreasonably restrictive and cruel.

Varadkar said the ban experts "a chilling effect on doctors. Difficult decisions that should be made by women and their doctors, a couple or the next-of-kin where there is no capacity, and on the basis of best clinical practice, are now made on foot of legal advice. That isn't how it should be." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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## Escape. Kurdish forces, battling ISIL, open a key corridor for Yazidis

Iraqi Kurdish forces battling Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) militants managed to open up a key corridor on Thursday so that thousands of people from the country's Yazidi minority who have been trapped on a mountain can flee, said a senior Kurdish official.

The development was an incremental step in the battle to retake the town of Sinjar, at the foothills of the mountain by the same name, which fell to ISIL in early August.

The Kurdish peshmerga troops, backed by U.S.-led coalition airstrikes, launched the operation to retake Sinjar on Wednesday.

Masrur Barzani, chancellor of Kurdistan Region Security Council, said the Kurdish forces advanced in battle, establishing the passageway to the moun-

tain on Thursday. He emphasized that Iraqi forces were in no way part of the operation.

"We asked the Iraqi government to provide the ammunition needed for this operation. Unfortunately they did not send the ammunition and their contribution was nothing, to be quite frank with you," Barzani told The Associated Press in Dohuk, in Iraq's Kurdish region.

Tens of thousands of Yazidis became trapped on the mountain in early August, when the ISIL extremists captured the towns of Sinjar and Zumar, prompting the exodus. Many were eventually airlifted off the mountain or escorted by a passageway through Syria back into Iraq, where they found refuge in the Iraqi Kurdish semi-autonomous region. But thousands remained stuck on the mountain. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Central African Republic. Religious clashes kill 28

Clashes in Central African Republic between Muslim and Christian fighters have killed 28 people, left dozens wounded and sent civilians fleeing for safety, a Red Cross official said Thursday.

The fighting began Tuesday in Mbrès when a member of a Christian militia was killed by a grenade allegedly thrown by a group of Muslims, according to a pastor in the town.

The violence escalated when Christian fighters counter-attacked and members of the country's Muslim rebel alliance arrived from a nearby town to join the melee.

Ahamat Ibrahim Nedjad, a spokesman for the Muslim

fighters, confirmed the clashes, but he said his group was attacked first and fought back.

Gunfire could still be heard on Thursday morning. The town has largely emptied out, with civilians fleeing their homes for the bush and local officials taking shelter in another town, the pastor said. He spoke on condition of anonymity, citing fear for his safety.

The fighting killed 28 and wounded dozens, said the Red Cross official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the news media. He said 70 homes were burned.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



## Pakistan condemns, mourns loss of children

A Pakistani child attends a protest to condemn Tuesday's Taliban attack on the Army Public School, Thursday in Peshawar, Pakistan. The Taliban massacre that killed more than 140 people, mostly children, at the military-run school in northwestern Pakistan left a scene of heart-wrenching devastation, pools of blood and young lives snuffed out as the nation mourned and mass funerals for the victims got underway.

MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Boko Haram blamed for more kidnapping

**Nigerian village.** 185 taken were young women, children and members of a civilian defence group

Islamic extremists killed 35 people and kidnapped at least 185 in an attack near the town where nearly 300 schoolgirls were taken hostage in April, witnesses said Thursday.

In Sunday night's attack on the village of Gumburi, most of the kidnapped were young women, children and members of a civilian defence group fighting Boko Haram, according to residents, a security official and a local government

officer. Teenager Aji Ibrahim said he was lucky to escape into the bushes.

"No doubt they were Boko Haram members because they were chanting 'Allahu akbar' (God is great) while shooting at people and torching houses," he told The Associated Press.

News of the attack took days to emerge because the militants have destroyed communications towers and people walked for days to avoid areas under extremist control.

Gumburi is 20 kilometres from Chibok, the northeastern town where extremists kidnapped 276 schoolgirls in April. Dozens of the students escaped that attack, but 219 remain missing.

The militants have kidnapped hundreds of people,

but the mass kidnappings of the girls from a boarding school attracted international outrage and condemnation of Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan and his military for their failure to rescue the hostages.

The United States, Britain, France and China were among countries that sent security experts and hostage negotiators to help free the girls.

Washington also flew drones over the area where it believed the schoolgirls were held. None of them has yet been found.

Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau initially demanded the release of his fighters who are being held illegally without charges or trial. But Jonathan said he would not negotiate with terrorists.

### Soldiers sentenced

A human rights lawyer says 54 Nigerian soldiers have been sentenced to death because they embarrassed the military by demanding weapons to fight Islamic extremists, and says they were justified in not going on what would have been a suicidal mission.

There were reports that some of the girls had been married to their captors and some carried across borders.

In a recent video, Shekau said the girls were "an old story," implying their release was no longer up for negotiation. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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# Evidence in Sony 'whodunit' hacking mostly circumstantial

**Response.** While many have pointed the finger at North Korea, the U.S. is still investigating

The detective work blaming North Korea for the Sony hacker break-in appears so far to be largely circumstantial, The Associated Press has learned. The dramatic conclusion of a Korean role is based on subtle clues in the hacking tools left behind and the involvement of at least one computer in Bolivia previously traced to other attacks blamed on the North Koreans.

Experts cautioned that hackers notoriously employ disinformation to throw investigators off their tracks, using borrowed tools, tampering with logs and inserting false references to language or nationality.



Workers remove a poster for *The Interview* from a billboard in Hollywood on Thursday. Sony announced Wednesday it had no choice but to cancel the movie's Christmas release and pull it from theatres due to a credible threat.  
MICHAEL THURSTON/AP/GETTY IMAGES

The hackers are believed to have been conducting surveillance on the network at Sony Pictures Entertainment

Inc. since at least the spring, based on computer forensic evidence and traffic analysis, a person with knowledge of

the investigation said.

If the hackers hadn't made their presence known by making demands and de-

stroying files, they probably would still be inside because there was no indication their presence was about to be detected, the person said. This person, who described the evidence as circumstantial, spoke only on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk openly about the case.

Still, the evidence has been considered conclusive enough that a U.S. official has said that federal investigators have now connected the Sony hacking to North Korea.

In public, White House spokesman Josh Earnest on Thursday declined to blame North Korea, saying he didn't want to get ahead of investigations by the Justice Department and the FBI. Earnest said evidence shows the hacking was carried out by a "sophisticated actor" with "malicious intent."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Impact

A breakdown of areas where Sony may suffer damage:

- **Box-office losses.** With a modest budget of about \$40 million US, *The Interview* had been predicted to gross around \$30 million in its opening weekend and could have grossed \$120 million in U.S. and foreign box office revenue. Sony has already spent tens of millions on marketing.
- **Stirred or shaken.** A leaked script of Sony's upcoming James Bond film *Spectre* led to an online frenzy of articles warning readers of "major spoilers." The potential damage from a hit to the blockbuster franchise is big. "How can they proceed if everyone in the audience has already read the script?" said an analyst. "You basically need to start over and see how much you can salvage."

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### Chain co-founder

Kids can play on field for now: Subway honcho

A co-founder of the Subway sandwich chain says kids in Danbury, Conn., can continue to play soccer on a field he owns until a new athletic field is ready to open. Peter Buck purchased the 13-acre field from the city for about \$3.2 million US in September with plans to build a warehouse for personal items. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Franc

Swiss central bank imposes negative interest rates

Switzerland's central bank has imposed negative interest rates on commercial bank deposits, with the aim of preventing the Swiss franc from gaining more strength against other currencies.

The move forces commercial banks to pay to deposit their francs with the Swiss National Bank. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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## VOICES

# CUBA WAS OUR PLACE



### THE KOHLER REPORT

By Rebecca Kohler

I don't know too much about Cuba or why the U.S. ended diplomatic relations with them in 1961.

I grew up hearing about an "embargo," a missile crisis and something about some pigs on the bay. Delicious? Oh yeah, and that communism thing.

In my adulthood I came to know Cuba as a sunny vacation destination for friends who enjoyed bad food and copious amounts of rum.

The fact that Cuba had poor relations with the States made it seem cooler — like that weird loner in high school who stayed away from the popular crowd but was still hot.

But with the announcement Wednesday that the U.S. will be opening an embassy in Havana, it's only a matter of time before U.S. tourist visas are approved and the

American masses start flooding in.

A happy day for Cuban businesspeople, a sad one for Canadian travellers. Cuba was our place.

If Americans wanted to travel to Cuba, they had to fly through Canada to get there. It was this one thing we had that they needed, aside from poutine: airports.

Now Cuba's going to be flooded with our loud, southern counterparts.

Large derrieres and fanny packs knocking us to the ground as we, in true Canadian fashion, apologize for being in their way.

As we sit at tables by the ocean, enjoying the familiar scent of universal health care, we'll be startled by the woman at the next table, speaking to the waiter like she has a megaphone implanted in her mouth: "EX-CUSE ME. I'll have another mojito! GRA-CIAS!"

Gone are the days when the only American we saw in Cuba was Ernest Hemingway's ghost as he smoked a Monte Cristo with that man by the sea.

### A farewell to arm-room

**Gone are the days when the only American we saw in Cuba was Ernest Hemingway's ghost as he smoked a Monte Cristo with that man by the sea.**

And what about the old cars? Studebakers, Oldsmobiles, Soviet imports? I don't really care about cars, but I do care about ambience.

Those cars gave a fun trip an educational twist — sure, you were puking up Havana Club but you were doing it in an automobile museum.

Annoying people and Ford Focuses aside, maybe the saddest part about this important diplomatic shift is how much this is going to cost us.

I have friends who have spent an all-in-

clusive week in Cuba for under \$1,000.

I doubt prices will stay so low, with 300 million potential new customers trampling through the discount-getaway websites.

Supply and demand is a harsh economic bitch. Cuban resort owners are probably dusting out their wallets right now as they learn to prepare a plate of grits.

Look, maybe there's a bright side.

Those new cars? A boon for the environment. Trade relations with the States? The food is bound to improve. Americans at the table beside you? A reason to feel better about yourself.

Let's look at this as two countries hugging after a long, ridiculous disagreement. It's kinda beautiful.

That said, I wonder what North Korea's like this time of the year.

*Rebecca Kohler is a stand-up comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter at @becca\_kohler*

## Happy face/Sad face

From kowtowing to hackers to old-school illness, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:



### AND BY 'YES', WE MEAN 'NO'

Major bummer for nearly 300 would-be Johns Hopkins students. Turns out the prestigious university in Baltimore accidentally sent congratulatory admission messages to 294 applicants who had actually been turned down. A contracted employee had pulled the wrong list of emails and set in motion the unfortunate turn of events.



### THE MAGIC OF INCLUSIVITY

J.K. Rowling has no doubt made kids from The Youth Project in Halifax seriously happy after retweeting a poster they made that says, "If Harry Potter taught us anything, it's that no one should live in a closet." The tweet was in response to a fan asking if LGBT students were in attendance at Hogwarts. We think it's pretty safe to say that the answer is "yes."



### HOLLYWOOD VS. THE HACKERS (SPOILER: THE HACKERS WIN)

Sony Pictures cancelled Seth Rogan/James Franco movie The Interview, about two guys who plot to kill North Korea's leader, after hackers broke into their system and made 9/11-style terror threats. If we don't have the freedom to watch third-rate political spoofs on Christmas Day, have the terrorists already won?



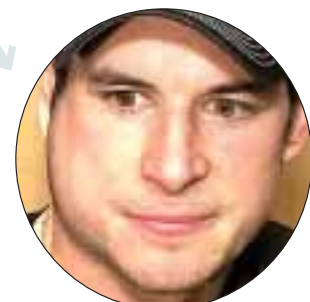
### THE MUMPS

Millions of non-medical professionals diagnosed Nova Scotia native Sidney Crosby with mumps days before the Pittsburgh Penguins' official doctors admitted the star player had the illness. More than a dozen players from five teams have been sidelined with the illness that causes, among other things, unmistakably swollen glands.



### ART SCHOOL GOES HEART SCHOOL

A U.K. art student raised more than £21,000 for a homeless man after he offered her his last £3 so she could get home safely. Dominique Harrison-Bentzen set up a donation page asking for £3 a pop to give to a homeless man named Robbie. In exchange, she and others spent 24 hours out on the streets. Makes that nude performance piece challenging the hegemony or whatever seem pretty lame in comparison, huh?





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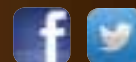


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MOVIES 21

# The must-see films of 2014

**Look-back list.** This year in film was one that offered accidental echoes of real life from charged movies about race like *Dear White People* and *Selma*, to anxieties about the passing of time, reflected in *Boyhood*

**MATT PRIGGE**  
Metro World News in New York

Here then are the best, darkest, funniest and, occasionally, just fun movies of the year.

## 10. Edge of Tomorrow

The first two-thirds of this Tom Cruise sci-fi spectacular are so good — hey, it's *Groundhog Day* with aliens, how do you screw that up? — that the so-so third that follows is easy to excuse. More funny/clever than rip-roaring, this — not interchangeable, interlocking Marvel romps — is what should be clogging multiplexes.

## 9. Selma

The world's first studio picture about Martin Luther King Jr. could have been another turgid biopic. Instead, it's a thrilling telling of a small but vital chapter in his life. And its portrayal of protests is more than accidentally topical, as peaceful protests concerning race rage in the streets: It's about the grunt work of activism and the way it requires sly manipulation.

## 8. Two Days, One Night

It's easy to take for granted Belgium's Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne (*Kid with a Bike*), who reliably churn out deeply humanist and deeply gripping



The Grand Budapest Hotel placed second on our list of top films of 2014. CONTRIBUTED

social dramas that often play like nail-biting thrillers. Their latest is only slightly better than usual, which is to say it's consistently heartbreaking, with Marion Cotillard rushing like mad on a fool's errand to save her crappy job.

## 7. Inherent Vice

The year's funniest comedy is, of course, an adaptation of the unadaptable Thomas Pynchon. The daunting novelist's impenetrable stoner detective tome becomes more than just another *Big Lebowski*: Combining Pynchon with Paul Thomas Anderson, it has the weirdest sense of humour since ... well, Anderson's *Punch-Drunk Love*.

## 6. Dear White People

Important without being pompous, necessary but still a blast, Justin Simien's temperature-taking of modern times as reflected through campus life wasn't really about stupid white people so much as about the diversity of black life that never, ever gets shown on screens.

## 1. Under the Skin



Scarlett Johansson took on some dangerous roles in 2014, including a mysterious alien in *Under the Skin*. CONTRIBUTED

Scarlett Johansson was dangerous in 2014. Lucy turned her into the invincible master of the universe. She was merely an alien seductress in this hypnotic mood piece, in which she trolled Glasgow, luring bros to a mysterious, inexplicable kind of death. There's a lot going on here, from its unflattering, detached view of humanity to its playfully empathic view of a psychopath who tries, and fails, to become human. But it's also a study of ScarJo, celebrity icon: someone outside of the rest of us, lusted after yet unobtainable, who ultimately can never be one of us, even if that may be for the best.

## 5. We are the Best!

Amidst all the misery and tragedy of this year, there was always this: a 100 per cent

joyous comedy about self-serious Swedish tween punk rock girls. They banged away at songs about sports and cor-

porations with less finesse than *Animal the Muppet*.

## 4. Listen Up Philip

There were a lot of socio-path movies this year, from *Whiplash* to *Big Eyes*. Jason Schwartzman's young, cartoonishly pompous novelist wasn't even the worst of them, but he was the saddest — an upstart trying to be the kind of literary jerk of a by-gone era and succeeding only at turning into a sour loner who drives away the only girl, potentially, who could put up with him (Elisabeth Moss). The film's final line of narration may make you dive for a stiff drink.

## 3. National Gallery

Frederick Wiseman has been cranking out observational documentaries on institutions — High School, Hospital, Central Park — for half a century. This hang at the London museum is more of the same, only more brilliant than usual — a shape-shifter that over its three leisurely hours turns into a look at cosmic insignificance, with art living longer than those who exhibit and protect it.

## 2. The Grand Budapest Hotel

There's always a deep, dark melancholy bubbling under Wes Anderson films. Here, it's harder to find than usual; this is his zippiest hunk of confectionery yet. But it's also set in a Europe about to be wasted by the Second World War, where violence that seems cartoonish — severed fingers, Looney Tunes-style plummets off cliffs — soon step up and then some. It's so hilarious that its chasmic despair isn't noticeable till a second viewing.

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MOVIES

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## Sequel. Tim Burton penning Beetlejuice 2



Michael Keaton is expected to reprise his role as Beetlejuice in the sequel. CONTRIBUTED

In discussion over the past few years, the followup to Beetlejuice, that macabre 1988 comedy, is finally taking shape. Director Tim Burton is now working on a script for the sequel, in which Michael Keaton is expected to reprise his role as the wacky ghost.

The arrival of Beetlejuice 2 is "closer than ever," according to Tim Burton. In an interview promoting his latest film Big Eyes, the director told Comingsoon.net he was currently writing the screenplay with help from Seth Grahame-Smith. The two previously collaborated to pen Dark Shadows.

But there is more good

news for Beetlejuice fans: Michael Keaton will star in this long-awaited sequel. Nearly 25 years after the release of the first movie, the actor will again don the costume of the vulgar and somewhat unreliable spirit who attempts to help a couple of fellow ghosts to rid their home of its pesky living occupants.

Plans for a second Beetlejuice movie were mentioned as early as 1990, but were shelved as Burton was already busy with Batman Returns. It was only in 2011 that the project was resurrected with Grahame-Smith's help on the script.

AFF

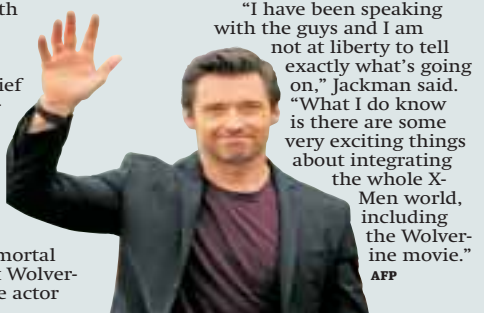
### Upcoming

## Jackman in talks for X-Men role

Hugh Jackman could join X-Men Apocalypse, the third film in the prequel trilogy.

If Jackman signs up for the film, it will be his seventh time —

or eighth when counting his very brief appearance in X-Men: First Class — portraying the immortal mutant Wolverine. The actor



took part in the original trilogy (released between 2000 and 2006), in two spinoffs on his character (X-Men Origins: Wolverine in 2009 and The Wolverine in 2013) and in the second film in the prequel trilogy X-Men: Days of Future Past (2014).

"I have been speaking with the guys and I am not at liberty to tell exactly what's going on," Jackman said. "What I do know is there are some very exciting things about integrating the whole X-

Men world, including the Wolverine movie." AFF

# Deaths in children's films can be traumatizing for kids

**Study.** Researchers have found murders more common in children's films than adult dramas

Nemo's mother is eaten by a barracuda; Tarzan's parents fall prey to a leopard; and don't forget Bambi's mother — she was gunned down by a hunter. Children's animated films are rife with murder and mayhem.

While such movie videos make popular gifts at Christmas and Hanukkah, parents may want to take precautions when young children first watch these films, which researchers say could traumatize little ones unprepared for characters dying — often in horrible ways. Their study, entitled Cartoons Kill, is published in the Christmas issue of the British Medical Journal, the journal's annual edition that's typically dedicated to tongue-in-cheek medical research and other lighthearted offerings.

And while this study may be about animated films, its message is deadly serious.

"I think a lot of people have talked about this, the fact that there seems to be a lot of deaths in children's films," said Ian Colman, a mental health epidemiologist at the University of Ottawa. "And we thought, let's have a look at this, and it seems to be timely."

Colman and co-principal investigator James Kirkbride of University College London in the U.K. used standard epidemiological techniques to analyze how soon into an animated kids' film a significant character meets their end.

The record is held by 2003's Finding Nemo, in which the main character's mother — and dozens of his gestating clown fish siblings — are gobbled up by the voracious undersea predator four minutes into the film.

"I've got two young kids myself, and I started watching these films, and my kids have been quite honestly traumatized by a few of them," Colman said of his four-year-old son and six-year-old daughter.

"We tried watching The Land Before Time, which seems pretty innocent. You've got these cute little cartoon dinosaurs, but the mother of the main character gets sav-



The record for quickest death of significant character in a kids' film is held by Finding Nemo. Nemo's mother is gobbled by an undersea predator in the first four minutes of the film. CONTRIBUTED

agely attacked and killed by a Tyrannosaurus rex in the first five minutes of the film. And at that point my daughter (about age four at the time) was just completely hysterical and begging me to stop the film. And when we saw something similar in Finding Nemo, we really started to think maybe there's something going on here."

The team viewed 45 of the top-grossing animated children's films and 90 dramatic movies aimed at adults — 135 in all — to determine in which genres the risk was greatest for a main character or a significant family member or friend to die. The animated movies made for kids won hands-down.

"I know some of these films have been quite traumatic for my kids and they've led to a lot of questions. Many of these films, as soon as they end, the kids start asking, 'Why this?' and 'Why that?'"

"This can actually be a good thing because it can give us a chance to talk about some important concepts, like death. But it can also make for some really difficult conversations that kids may not be ready for, and this is particularly important for younger kids," Colman said.

Dr. Sandra Mendlowitz, a psychologist in the anxiety program at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, said such violence has been a part of children's animated films and TV cartoons going back many decades.

For instance, Saturday morning cartoon staple Wiley E. Coyote was repeatedly

### By the numbers

- **2.5 times.** More likely that there will be the death of a significant character in a children's animated film compared to an adult drama.
- **2.8 times.** More likely to be murder in children's films, and the victims are five times more likely to be parents.

smashed on the head, blown up or dropped off a mountainside as he pursued the Road Runner ("beep, beep"), yet he always bounced back.

Mendlowitz said the idea that characters come back to life after such normally fatal acts represents a distortion of reality that doesn't allow children to process the concept of death or understand its finality. Yet movies in which a major character is killed and never seen again can also be troubling for young kids.

"What a lot of parents don't understand is that really young children do not have a concept of death. And it doesn't matter how bright they are ... because understanding the concept of death runs a development spectrum," she said Tuesday.

"The concept isn't even begun to be understood until between ages five and seven and is really not solidified in most kids until nine or 10."

Mendlowitz, who was not involved in the BMJ paper, said mental health experts have known for some time

that exposure to brutality and violent death in films and other media can have harmful effects on children.

"The problem is that if you see a lot of violence you can become very frightened or traumatized or you can become less sensitive to violence, and the longer-term effects are the potential to behave aggressively," she said, advising that a parent should watch animated films with their child so they can monitor and explain any content that spawns confusion or upset.

Colman said the researchers had expected that there would be fewer deaths in more recent animated films because many of today's parents have a tendency to bubble-wrap their kids. But they found "things are just as bad now" as in 1937's Snow White, when the seven dwarves, seeking vengeance, pushed the Evil Queen off a cliff to her death.

"I think the message from this study is that just because a film has a cute clown fish, a princess or a beautiful baby deer as a main character, it doesn't mean that there won't be murder and mayhem," he said, agreeing that young kids should see a film for the first time with a parent.

"That way if there are difficult themes that come up, the children can talk to you about it. And when the children want to watch the film for the second time — or the 42nd time — you're going to know exactly what they're going to see."

THE CANADIAN PRESS





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MOVIES 23

Mackenzie Mauzy plays Rapunzel and Billy Magnussen is the prince in *Into the Woods*. CONTRIBUTED

# Meryl's men in tights and 30 feet of hair

## Into the Woods.

Big-screen adaptation of Broadway musical posed many challenges for the actors playing Rapunzel and her prince

RICHARD  
CROUSE  
scene@metronews.ca

I learned a great deal during my interview with Mackenzie Mauzy and Billy Magnussen. The Manhattan-based performers brought me up to speed on the rite of passage for all New York actors, Rapunzel's hair and whether or not Meryl Streep likes men in blue tights.

The pair play Rapunzel and Rapunzel's Prince in the big-screen adaptation of the legendary Broadway musical *Into the Woods*.

The two relative newcomers — she's best known as Abigail on *Forever* while he made a memorable appearance on *Boardwalk Empire* and will

soon be seen in an upcoming Steven Spielberg spy thriller — help bring fairy tales to life as part of a large ensemble that includes Johnny Depp, Emily Blunt and Meryl Streep.

Which leads me to the first thing I learned during our chat.

"Meryl's a beast," says Magnussen. "She's the one who got me the job. I was in a play and she saw it and recommended me to (director) Rob (Marshall) and (producer) Mark Platt. The play was Vonya and Sonia and Marsha and Spike, and I dress up as a prince because we're going to a costume party. It's all about the blue tights."

"Meryl likes the blue tights," laughs Mauzy.

Next, I discovered the wig Mauzy wears in the film put her at a follicular risk.

"They used my hair and braided it into the extensions," she says. "It was 30 feet long, so I wrapped it around my arm. I had a little fake one for rehearsal but I asked to actually wear (the real hair) one day so I could figure out how to be mobile. It's a tripping hazard! We joke about how I had a really strong left bicep

## Just call him Steve

Apparently it's OK to call Stephen Sondheim — the legendary composer and eight-time Tony Award winner — Steve. "Everyone calls him Steve!" laughs Mackenzie Mauzy, who worked with him on the big-screen version of *Into the Woods*. "He likes to be called Steve! It is weird. Steve Sondheim."

for a couple of months."

Then, Magnussen enlightened me on a rite of passage for New York actors: "Once you get on *Law and Order*, you're really an actor."

Both have done time in the L&O trenches.

Mauzy played a child killer named Carly Di Gravia. "It's weird I remember that name," she says.

"It was one of my first jobs," Magnussen says.

"They bleached my hair white and I was a Southern male prostitute. How do you tell your mom? Hey watch this!"

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## Q&A. Paul Thomas Anderson has been fan of Pynchon books for years



For filmmaker Paul Thomas Anderson's latest trick, he's taken on a literary titan long thought impossible to adapt for film — or for a single film, at least. But Anderson had been such a fan of Thomas Pynchon for so long that he says he couldn't not do the film version of *Inherent Vice*, Pynchon's 2009 novel ostensibly about a stoner private detective (Joaquin Phoenix) working a case in 1970 Los Angeles. And since he's presumably spent some time with the notoriously reclusive author, we asked Anderson to draw us a picture of Pynchon. The results are pretty entertaining.

**Adapting Pynchon for the screen is a daunting task. At what point did you first think, "I should do this?"** It was two things at once. It was, "I don't know how to do this and I can't do this, but no one else is going to be allowed to do this but me." I love, and have loved his work for a long time. I flirted with trying to do *Vineland*, I certainly thought for a second Mason and Dixon could be done — and maybe someday still will. But this presented itself as doable, as a great lead character weaving through many other great characters.

And I loved how many girls there were in it, too. There's so many great parts for girls, and getting your hero to interact with all of

them — and most of them are half-clothed. That just seemed so appealing.

**If you take your films chronologically, it tells an interesting story of the development of the L.A. area.** Sure, sure, for sure. But really not by design. That's just kind of the way things have fallen.

There are people who buy books about history and people who don't. I'm one of those people who buys books about neighbourhoods, where you can see, "Here's the picture of it in 1920 and here's the picture of it today."

**Do you think of your films that way, as a body of work with overarching themes?** Only in interviews, I do. Like now. But it's funny, things come out in the wash. Like on *The Master*, the preoccupation was, "You make films about fathers and sons." And I was like, "I do? F—, I guess I do. OK, sure."

I never thought I'd be making a detective movie, ever. This was a way to make a Thomas Pynchon movie, and his concerns are my concerns.

I'd like to steal from his kind of preoccupation with this country, this world, where it's at, where it's going. Republicans in power, land grabs, abuses of power. You know, all this kind of stuff that I love. **NED EHRBAR**

# Joaquin's dopey detective best viewed with a clear head

**Inherent Vice.** Oscar-winning actor says it would be redundant to get stoned before watching his Doc Sportello character

**NED EHRBAR**  
Metro World News in Hollywood

*Inherent Vice* marks the second time Oscar winner Joaquin Phoenix has teamed up with director Paul Thomas Anderson — they previously collaborated on 2013's *The Master* — and this one couldn't be more different. For one thing, it's an adaptation of a novel by notoriously elusive and verbose author Thomas Pynchon. For another, it features a twisty, hazy detective novel plot centred around Phoenix's stoner detective, Doc Sportello. But that doesn't mean Phoenix thinks you should smoke up yourself before watching.

**Are you worried about people finding the plot hard to follow? Do you have advice about how to watch it?** I would say that it's a movie to be experienced. I think if you're sitting there and trying to figure it out, you're going to miss a lot of the beauty of the film.

It really is something where the texture of the movie, the tone of it is such a wonderful experience, it's just this haze. I remember when I was done watching it, I didn't realize how much I'd been transported into this other world, because Paul just lulls you into this state. It's so subtle how he brings you into it.

So I think the best experience is to just go along for the ride and not try to figure it all out. The cool thing about movies is everybody has a different way of watching them and experiencing them.

**So, I have to ask: Yes or no — Is Pynchon in the film?** I really don't know. It's funny because I feel like kind of a d— now, but I never asked. Like, I just assumed that he wasn't around.

My publicist showed me something where Josh (Brolin) had said that he was around or that he showed up, and I was like, "How did



Joaquin Phoenix CONTRIBUTED

### Sober thoughts

Joaquin Phoenix says there is no need to get stoned before seeing *Inherent Vice*.

"I don't think so. Because I feel like the movie gives you that feeling, do you know what I mean? So I wouldn't suggest it."

Josh know?" I felt a little bit left out, like did Paul tell Josh and didn't tell me? But, no, I never asked. It just never occurred to me that he would be.

**How does it differ when you**

**have something as dense as this novel versus a script?** It's weird because there's times when it's really helpful and then there's times when it's really frustrating, because there's things that you loved so much in the book you want to get into the film but you just can't. There's a lot of characters that were just left out.

But obviously the more information you have, the better. It's just tough for me. It was a bit of a struggle because I wanted to remain confused and naive about the story, which isn't difficult to do. You'd have to read it a hundred times, like Paul did, to really get your head

around it.

But I always wanted to remain in that state, and it's something that Paul really stirred up. He would combine certain characters or take dialogue from one character and apply it to another, just stir everything up and create this sense of confusion where I didn't really know what was what.

**Is there a difference in the dynamic with him since working on *The Master*?**

Everything is different. The whole tone of this was different. This felt much more open in a way. When we worked on *The Master*, it felt so intimate.

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Metro's here for some yuletide cheer! We offer up the best holiday movies you can stream to help get you into the Christmas spirit.

MARIA BARBERA  
Metro World News in New York

### National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation

This is a classic Christmas comedy if there ever was one. As Chevy Chase prepares to have his extended family over for the holidays, a variety of (hilarious) disasters ensue. This film is filled with a ton of classic gags. If you're feeling nostalgic for a time when physical, family-oriented comedy thrived, be sure to check this out!



# 5

## Movies to watch for the holidays



### Scrooged

Bill Murray is probably the last person most people would associate with Ebenezer Scrooge. And that's why this movie works so well. A modern, comedic take on the famous holiday tale A Christmas Carol, this movie features a Scrooge we can care about, sympathize with, and even laugh with. Check it out!



### A Charlie Brown Christmas

Let's just face it: When the holidays come around, you can't really ever go wrong with Charlie Brown. Whether you're looking for something for the whole family, revisiting your childhood, or adamantly insisting that "Charlie Brown is totally for adults, too!" (hey, more power to you, man), this is a great option!



### 12 Dates of Christmas

The holidays are the time to indulge: on copious amounts of food; on gift splurges for your loved ones (or, hey, even yourself, no judgement); and on cheesy rom-coms that you dutifully roll your eyes at during the rest of the year. Take in the spirit of the season and check out this adorable romantic comedy, which tells the story of an unfortunate girl who is forced to go on the same horrible date 12 times.



### Christmas in Paradise

After a tough year, two different families embark on a cruise to San Juan for Christmas, hoping to escape their troubles and enjoy the holiday. Their paths entwine during the vacation, and the members of each family become instrumental in each other's journeys. If you're in the mood for a sentimental, uplifting Christmas film, look no further than this (absolutely free!) option.

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Timothy Spall plays J.M.W. Turner in *Mr. Turner*. CONTRIBUTED

# To portray a painter, you must learn to paint

## Mr. Turner Q&A.

Timothy Spall is proud of the artistic skills he developed while preparing to play famed British painter J.M.W. Turner

NED  
EHRBAR  
scene@metronews.ca

You don't get very far into a conversation with British character actor Timothy Spall without him slipping off on an eyebrow-raising tangent. For instance, we're sitting in a room at the InterContinental Hotel, a name that brings to mind an anecdote.

"InterContinental ... I worked in one once. It was the worst place — in the kitchen, in the pastry room," Spall recalls. "I spent all day washing pastry tins in boiling hot water without any soap. My hands — it was like I was wearing rubber gloves, they

were so fat and pink. And the chef said, 'Oh by the way, there's some rubber gloves over there.' 'You f---tard!' He lets out a hearty laugh before adding, "I didn't go back. I joined the theatre."

Another random personal detail he slips in later is that he owns — and extensively uses — an interesting boat.

"It's a bit of a funny old boat. It's a flat-bottom, sea-going barge. And I've been going on the North Sea in it a few times," he says. "I did this mad thing in this boat. We left the Thames, and I was going to go to France and go through the canals. But my wife and I said, 'No, bullocks, let's discover our own country.' So I turned right and we circumnavigated the entire British Isles. On and off, it took four years because I had to go off and make the money to pay for the mooring and the fuel."

Speaking of money, aside from being a former dishwasher and amateur explorer, Spall is first and foremost an actor. And his latest work

involves embodying the complicated life of famed British painter J.M.W. Turner, something he ended up doing much more preparation for than he was expecting.

"We'd first talked about it seven years ago. Then, in 2010, Mike had me into his office and told me his next film would be about Turner and asked if I was still up for it. I said, 'Yeah, yeah, of course I am!' He said, 'And also, if you don't mind, I'd like you to start learning how to paint now,'" Spall remembers.

That led to some very extensive fine art lessons.

"There's about 300 different images that we made and about 24 paintings. I eventually ended up doing a full-scale copy of *Snow Storm: Steam-Boat off a Harbour's Mouth*. I don't quite believe it. I've got it on my wall, I look at it and go, 'I didn't do that.' I even had it framed in the same kind of frame that's in the National Gallery. You know, it's not Turner, but it is great."

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., DEC. 19 TO THURS., DEC. 25. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

## Cinema City McGillivray 2190 McGillivray Blvd.

Big Eyes (PG) Thu 4:55-7:40-10:25  
Big Hero 6 (G) Fri 3:55-6:45 Sat-Sun  
12:35-3:10-5:45 Mon 12:35-3:10-6:40  
Tue 12:35-3:10-5:45 Wed 1:30-4:05-7:15  
Exodus: Gods and Kings (PG) Fri-Wed 3:55 Thu 3:30  
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG) Fri 7:10-10:40 Sat-Tue 12:40-7:10-10:40 Wed 12:40-7:10 Thu 6:50-10:05 Fri-Tue 3:55-6:45 Wed 3:55-6:45  
The Gambler (14A) No Passes Thu 4:45-7:30-10:20  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG) No Passes Fri 3:15-6:45-10 No Passes Sat-Tue 12:30-6:45-10 No Passes Wed 12:30-6:45 No Passes Thu 6:45-9:55 No Passes Fri 1:45-7:30-10:40 No Passes Sat-Tue 1:05-4:15-7:30-10:40 No Passes Wed 1:05-4:15-7:30 No Passes Thu 3  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 1:45-7:30-10:40 No Passes Sat-Tue 1:35-4:10-7:20-10:30 No Passes Wed 1:35-4:10-7:20-10:30 No Passes Thu 1:35-4:10-7:20-10:30 No Passes Fri-Tue 3:30-7:10-10:15 No Passes Wed 3:30-7:10-10:15 No Passes Thu 3:30-6:45-10:15  
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri 2:30-5:05-7:45-10:25 Sat 5:7-45-10:25 Sun-Tue 2:20-5:7-45-10:25 Wed 5:7-45  
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri 1:05-4:7-9:55 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-7:9-55 Mon 12:50-3:50-9:55 Tue 12:50-3:50-7:9-55 Wed 12:50-3:50-7 Thu 4:15-7:05-10  
Interstellar (PG) Fri-Sun 8:25 Mon 9:20 Tue 8:25  
It's a Wonderful Life (STC) Sat 12:30 Mon 7 Wed 12:30  
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) No Passes Fri 2:05-4:45-7:30-10:05 No Passes Sat-Tue 2:45-7:30-10:05 No Passes Wed 2:45-7:30-10:05 No Passes Thu 4:30-7:05-9:45  
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Sat-Wed 1:45  
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri 1:45-4:15-6:50-9:10 Sat-Tue 4:15-6:50-9:10 Wed 4:15-6:50  
Unbroken (PG) No Passes Thu 3:45-7:10-10

## Cinema City Northgate 1399 McPhillips Street

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (G) Fri 5:10-7:20-9:20 Sat-Tue 12:50-3:50-10:20 Wed 12:50-3:50-10:20 Thu 5:10-7:20-9:20  
The Book of Life (G) Sat-Wed 1:40  
The Book of Life 3D (G) Fri-Tue 4:6-15 Wed 4:10 Thu 4:6-15  
The Equalizer (14A) Fri-Tue 7-9:35 Wed 6:50 Thu 7-9:35  
Gone Girl (14A) Fri 3:50-8:40 Sat-Tue 12:40-3:50-8:40 Wed 3:20-6:30 Thu 3:50-8:40  
Guardians of the Galaxy (PG) Sat-Tue 1:10 Wed 1:20  
Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 4:10-6:50-9:30 Wed 4:6-40 Thu 4:10-6:50-9:30  
Ouija (PG) Fri 5:20-7:30-9:45

Sat-Tue 1-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:45 Wed 1-3:10-5:20-7:30 Thu 5:20-7:30-9:45  
Past Tense (PG) Fri 4:20-7-9:50 Sat-Tue 1:30-4:20-7-9:50 Wed 1:30-4:30-7 Thu 4:20-7-9:50  
PK (STC) Fri 4:40-8:10 Sat-Tue 1:20-4:40-8:10 Wed 2-6 Thu 4:40-8:10  
A Walk Among the Tombstones (14A) Fri 4:30-7:10-9:40 Sat-Tue 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:40 Wed 1:50-4:40-7:10 Thu 4:30-7:10-9:40

## Cinematheque 304-100 Arthur

The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared (14A) Fri 7 Sat 2-9 Sun 2  
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Thu  
Walking the Camino: Six Ways to Santiago (STC) Fri 9 Sat-Sun 7

## City Cinema - Northgate 1399 McPhillips

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (G) Fri 5:10-7:20-9:20 Sat-Tue 12:50-3:50-10:20 Wed 12:50-3:50-10:20 Thu 5:10-7:20-9:20  
The Book of Life (G) Sat-Wed 1:40  
The Book of Life 3D (G) Fri-Tue 4:6-15 Wed 4:10 Thu 4:6-15  
The Equalizer (14A) Fri-Tue 7-9:35 Wed 6:50 Thu 7-9:35  
Gone Girl (14A) Fri 3:50-8:40 Sat-Tue 12:40-3:50-8:40 Wed 3:20-6:30 Thu 3:50-8:40  
Guardians of the Galaxy (PG) Sat-Wed 1:10 Sat-Wed 1:10 Wed 1:20  
Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 4:10-6:50-9:30 Wed 4:6-40 Thu 4:10-6:50-9:30  
Ouija (PG) Fri 5:20-7:30-9:45  
Sat-Tue 1-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:45 Wed 1-3:10-5:20-7:30 Thu 5:20-7:30-9:45  
Past Tense (PG) Fri 4:20-7-9:50 Sat-Tue 1:30-4:20-7-9:50 Wed 1:30-4:30-7 Thu 4:20-7-9:50  
A Walk Among the Tombstones (14A) Fri 4:30-7:10-9:40 Sat-Tue 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:40 Wed 1:50-4:30-7:10 Thu 4:30-7:10-9:40

## Famous Players Kildonan Place, 1555 Regent Ave W.

Annie (G) Fri 6:45-9:20 Sat-Tue 1:20-3:50-6:45-9:20 Wed 1:20-3:50  
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri 6:55-9:50 Sat-Tue 12:30-3:10-6:55-9:50 Wed 12:30-3:10  
Exodus: Gods and Kings (PG) Sat-Wed 3:25  
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Tue 12:10-7:30 Wed 12:10  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG) Sat-Wed 3:20  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Tue 12:15-6:30-9:30 Wed 12:15  
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri 7:10-9:40 Sat-Tue 1:10-3:45-7:10-9:40 Wed 1:10-3:45  
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri 3:40-6:40-9:40 Sat-Tue 12:50-3:35-6:50-9:45 Wed 12:50-3:35  
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) Fri 7-9:35 Sat-Tue 1-3:30-7-9:35 Wed 1-3:30  
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri 7:05 Sat-Tue 4-7:05 Wed 4  
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri 9:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-9:15 Mon-Tue 9:15

9:50 No Passes Sat-Tue 1:30-4:15-7:10-9:50 No Passes Wed 1:30-4:15-7:10 No Passes Thu 4:15-7:10-9:50  
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri 4:30 Sat-Tue 1:15-4:30 Thu 4:30

## Grant Park 8 Cinemas 1120 Grant Ave.

Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance) (14A) Fri-Tue 12:40-3:55-6:40-9:55 Wed 12:40-3:55-6:40  
Citizenfour (PG) Fri-Tue 9:50  
Exodus: Gods and Kings (PG) Fri-Wed 3:10  
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG) Fri 12:10-6:30-9:30 Sat 6:30-9:30 Sun-Tue 12:10-6:30-9:30 Wed 12:10-6:30 Thu 6:30-9:30  
The Gambler (14A) Thu 7:05-9:50  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG) Fri-Tue 3:15 Wed 3:15-6:15  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 12:45-10:05 Wed 12 Thu 7:20-10:15 Fri-Tue 12:30-3:35-7:20-10:15 Wed 12:30-3:35-7:20  
The Imitation Game (PG) Thu 7:15-9:40  
Into the Woods (G) Thu 7:30-10:10  
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) Thu 7:10-10:05  
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri-Wed 5:10  
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri-Wed 12:50-3:7-15  
Shakespeare's Globe on Screen: The Taming of the Shrew (STC) Sat 11  
The Theory of Everything (G) Fri-Tue 12:20-3:25-7-9:40 Wed 12:20-3:25-7  
Unbroken (PG) Thu 6:50-9:55  
Whiplash (14A) Fri-Tue 1-3:45-7:10-10:10 Wed 1-3:45-7:10  
Wild (14A) Fri-Tue 1:10-4:10-6:55-10 Wed 1:10-4:10-6:55 Thu 6:40-10

## Landmark Towne Cinema 8, 301 Notre Dame Avenue

Annie (G) Fri 6:45-9:20 Sat-Tue 1:20-3:50-6:45-9:20 Wed 1:20-3:50  
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri 6:55-9:50 Sat-Tue 12:30-3:10-6:55-9:50 Wed 12:30-3:10  
Exodus: Gods and Kings (PG) Sat-Wed 3:25  
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Tue 12:10-7:30 Wed 12:10  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG) Sat-Wed 3:20  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Tue 12:15-6:30-9:30 Wed 12:15  
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri 7:10-9:40 Sat-Tue 1:10-3:45-7:10-9:40 Wed 1:10-3:45  
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri 3:40-6:40-9:40 Sat-Tue 12:50-3:35-6:50-9:45 Wed 12:50-3:35  
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) Fri 7-9:35 Sat-Tue 1-3:30-7-9:35 Wed 1-3:30  
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri 7:05 Sat-Tue 4-7:05 Wed 4  
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri 9:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-9:15 Mon-Tue 9:15

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Annie (G) No Passes Fri 1:10-4:10-7:05-10:10 No Passes Sat 10:55-1:35-4:20-7:15-10:10 No Passes Sun-Tue 1:10-4:10-7:05-10:10 No Passes Wed 1:10-4:10-7:05 No Passes Thu 1:10-4:10-7:05-9:55  
Big Hero 6 (G) Fri-Wed 2 Thu 1:50  
Big Hero 6 3D (G) Fri 4:40 Sat 11:15-4:40 Sun-Wed 12:30-4:40 Thu 4:40  
Bolshoi Ballet: The Nutcracker (STC) Sun 12:55  
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri-Sun 7:20-10 Mon 10:20 Tue 7:30-10:20 Thu 7:30-10:10 Mon 7:30  
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG) Fri 12:25-3:45-7:05-10:25 Sat 12:25-3:50-7:25-10:45 Sun-Tue 12:25-3:45-7:05-10:25 Wed 12:25-3:45-7:05 Thu 12:30-3:50-7:25-10:45  
Fred Claus (PG) Sat 11  
The Gambler (14A) No Passes Wed 7 No Passes Thu 2:25-5:10-8:05-10:35  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG) No Passes Fri 2:40-6 No Passes Sat 11:20-2:40-6 No Passes Sun-Wed 2:40-6 No Passes Thu 2:35-6  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies -- An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:50 No Passes Sun 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:35 No Passes Mon 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:35 No Passes Tue 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:35 No Passes Wed 12:55-4:10-7:30 No Passes Thu 12:55-4:10-7:30-10:50

The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 3:10-6:30-9:20-9:50 No Passes Sat 11:50-3:10-6:30-9:20-9:50 No Passes Sun-Tue 3:10-6:30-9:20-9:50 No Passes Wed 3:10-6:30 No Passes Thu 9:20 No Passes Fri 12:25-3:40-7:10-10:20 No Passes Sat 12:20-3:40-7:10-10:20 No Passes Sun-Tue 12:25-3:40-7:10-10:20 No Passes Wed 12:25-3:40-7:10-10:20 No Passes Thu 12:25-3:40-7:10-10:20  
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri-Sat 2:20-5:7-40-10:35 Sun 2:20-5:7-40-10:25 Mon 1:45-4:25-10:10 Tue 1:45-4:25-7:40-10:30 Wed 4:7-10 Thu 12:30-3:05-5:40-8:20-11  
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri-Sat 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Sun 4:30-7:30-10:30 Mon-Tue 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Wed 1:30-4:30-7:30 Thu 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:30  
The Imitation Game (PG) No Passes Thu 2:05-5:05-7:55-10:55  
Interstellar (PG) Fri 2:50-6:30-10:15 Sat 6:45-10:25 Sun-Tue 2:50-6:30-10:15 Wed 2:50  
Into the Woods (G) No Passes Thu 1:50-4:55-7:50-10:45  
It's a Wonderful Life (STC) Sat 12:30 Mon 7 Wed 12:30  
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) No Passes Fri 1:45-2:45-4:20-5:15-7:10-7:50-9:40-10:20 No Passes Sat 10:55-11:35-1:20-2:05-3:55-4:35-5:15-7:10-7:50-9:40-10:20 No Passes Sun-Tue 12:30-1:45-2:45-4:20-5:15-7:10-7:50-9:40-10:20 No Passes Wed 12:30-1:45-2:45-4:20-

5:15-7:10-7:50 No Passes Thu 12:25-2:50-5:15-7:50-10:20  
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri 12:35 Sat 11:10-12:30 Sun-Thu 12:35 Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri-Tue 2:55-5:20-7:45-10:05 Wed 2:55-5:20-7:45 Thu 2:55-5:20  
Top Five (18A) Fri 2:35-5:20-8-10:30 Sat 12-2:35-5:20-8-10:30 Sun-Tue 2:55-5:30-8-10:30 Wed 2:55-5:30-8 Thu 7:35-10  
Unbroken (PG) No Passes Wed 7:30 No Passes Thu 12:40-3:50-7:10-10:25

### SilverCity St. Vital 110-1225 St Mary's Rd.

Annie (G) No Passes Thu 7:15-10  
Big Hero 6 (G) Thu 1  
Big Hero 6 3D (G) Fri 2-4:40-7:20

Sat 11:20-2-4:40-7:20 Sun 2-4:40-7:20 Mon-Tue 2-4:40-7:25 Wed 1:45-4:30 Thu 4:40-7:20  
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri-Sat 2:30-5:10-7:55-10:40 Sun 2:25-5:10-7:55-10:40 Mon-Tue 2:30-5:10-7:55-10:35 Wed 2:30-5:10-7:50  
Exodus: Gods and Kings (PG) Fri-Wed 3:50 Thu 3:45  
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG) Fri 12:30-7:10-10:30 Sat-Tue 12:25-7:10-10:30 Wed 12:25-7:10 Thu 12:30-7:05-10:30  
Fred Claus (PG) Sat 11  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG) No Passes Fri 10 No Passes Sat 11:30-6:10-9:30 No Passes Sun 12:35-6:10-9:30 No Passes Mon-Tue 12:30-6:10-9:30 No Passes Wed 1-6:40 No Passes Thu 1:15-6:50-10:10

No Passes Fri 6:10-9:30  
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:50 No Passes Mon-Tue 12:40-4-7:20-10:40 No Passes Wed 12:40-4-7:20 No Passes Thu 12:45-4:05-7:25-10:45 No Passes Fri 1:30-2:50-3:30-6:50-10:10 No Passes Sat 12:10-2:50-3:30-6:50-10:10 No Passes Sun-Tue 12:05-2:50-3:30-6:50-10:10 No Passes Wed 12:30-3:20-3:45-7 No Passes Thu 2:30-3:30-6-9:30  
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri-Tue 2:15-5-7:45-10:25 Wed 2:15-5-7:45 Thu 10:05  
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri-Sat 1-4-7-10 Sun-Tue 12-4-7-10 Wed 12:30-4:15-7:20 Thu 12:35-4-7-10

Interstellar (PG) Fri-Tue 10:05  
Into the Woods (G) No Passes Wed 7:25 No Passes Thu 1:25-4:20-7:15-10:15  
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) No Passes Fri 10:15-12:40-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:20 No Passes Sat-Tue 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:20 No Passes Wed 12:30-3-5:25-7:50 No Passes Thu 2:40-5:15-7:50-10:20  
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri 12:30 Sat 11:50-12:20 Sun-Tue 12:20 Wed-Thu 12:30  
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri 5:05-7:35-9:55 Sat-Tue 2:40-5:05-7:35-9:55 Wed 2:55-5:20-7:40 Thu 2:45-5:05-7:35-9:55  
Unbroken (PG) No Passes Thu 12:40-3:50-7:10-10:25

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Top Five. CONTRIBUTED



## Rock says Tinseltown is terrified after Sony hack

The whole Sony hacking scandal has the entertainment industry on edge, at least according to Chris Rock.

"This whole thing is just scary. It's emails, it's your private stuff. And the whole town is scared. Nobody knows what to do," Rock said during a Q&A with David Carr.

It's worth noting that Scott Rudin — who has come under fire because of leaked emails between him and Amy Pascal about Angelina Jolie and President Obama — is a producer on Top Five, Rock's new film.

"Read my emails," Rock says, responding to whether he himself is worried. "I say offensive things for a living."



Chris Rock



Ansel Elgort

## Elgort is so freaking hetero — honest!

Fault in our Stars star Ansel Elgort is apparently worried you might have heard some rumours about him or maybe made some assumptions of your own about his sexuality. But just for the record, he's totally not gay. The 20-year-old took to Twitter to announce, "Just in case it isn't clear ... I like girls. A lot." I'm sure the tweet was meant to come off as endearing, but that "a lot" at the end just makes him seem a bit ... desperate. But he did at least follow up with a nice message about acceptance, insisting that "If I was gay, I wouldn't hide it."



### Gossip

## NED EHRBAR

### METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Cameron Diaz ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

## Joel not sure Benji and Diaz are a match Madden in heaven

Cameron Diaz and heavily tattooed Good Charlotte twin Benji Madden have been dating since May, but apparently that's long enough to know he's a keeper because a source tells the National Enquirer that Diaz and Madden are "planning their wedding for early in the new year. They've been telling close friends in recent weeks about their plans, but it's very hush-hush." Well, I mean, it was very hush-hush until now. Way to go, anonymous source.

Not everyone is thrilled, though, chief among them Benji's twin brother, Joel, who "actually likes Cameron a lot and thinks they're a good match, but he doesn't want Benji to rush into something so quickly."

Which is fair. I mean, has she even been around them long enough to conclusively tell them apart? Twins are hard, man. Also, I feel like there's a whole vault of quotes from Diaz about marriage and family that could be dug up for this.

Like 2012, when she told Esquire marriage "just wasn't the thing I was drawn to." Or how about two months ago, when she told Marie Claire, "I'm not looking for a husband or marriage or not looking for that stuff. I'm living,

not thinking what I should or shouldn't be doing with my life." What a difference Thanksgiving makes.



Michaela Watkins

## Funny or Die sweetens the podcast with Serial send-up

Did the finale of Serial not give you the satisfaction you were looking for? Funny or Die has you covered. The humour site taps into the obsession built up around the This American Life podcast and its highly anticipated conclusion.

Michaela Watkins plays Serial host Sarah Koenig as she dodges eager fans and scrambles to come up with a satisfying resolution before finally snapping:

"What do you want? I do a podcast! It was sup-

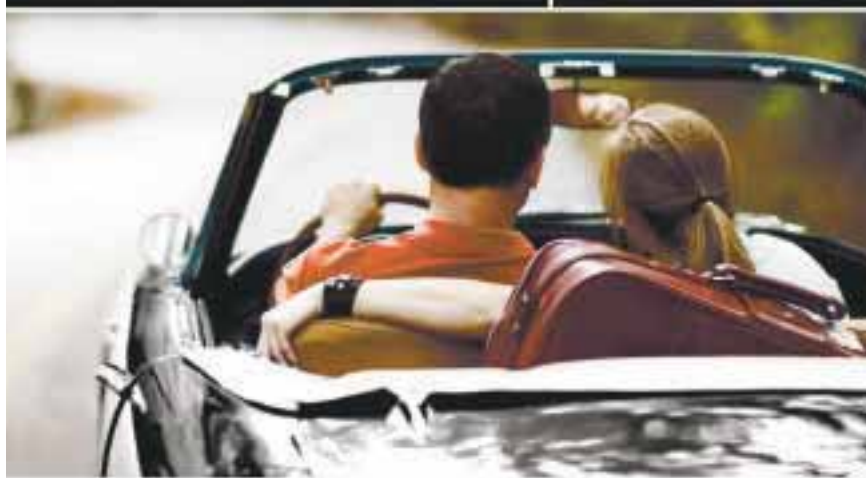
posed to be for four people. Do you think if I thought this was going to be anything I would have MailChimp sponsor us?" she rants. "What do you want to know? Do you want to know who did it? Fine. It was me! I did it!" Well, I don't think anyone saw that coming.

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Ricardo is a Canadian chef, television host and author on a mission: To unite people through the pleasure of food. Discover his delicious and simple recipes every Friday — just in time for the weekend

# A snappy serving of sophistication



This recipe serves four. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

**Turkey Cutlets with Parsnip Purée and Honeyed Cranberries.**  
This holiday dinner will impress the pickiest of eaters



**RICARDO COOKS**  
Chef Ricardo  
Ricardo Magazine

Surprise! The in-laws are coming over for dinner tonight!

Step 1: Do not panic. Step 2: Whip up this show-stopping recipe. Despite the fact that it looks, and tastes, like you've been at it all day, it comes together in about an hour.

## Parsnip Purée

1. In a saucepan, soften the onion in half the butter. Add parsnips and milk and bring to a boil. Simmer, uncovered, about 20 minutes or until the parsnips are tender. Drain. In a food processor, purée until

smooth with remaining butter. Season with salt and pepper. Keep warm.

## Honeyed Cranberries

1. In a skillet, caramelize honey for 1 minute. Add cranberries and coat well. Continue cooking until cranberries begin to burst. Set aside.

## Turkey

1. In skillet, brown the turkey cutlets on each side in half the butter until the meat is cooked. Season with salt and pepper. Set aside on a warm plate.

2. In same skillet, soften shallot in the remaining butter. Sprinkle with the flour and cook, stirring, until golden brown. Add the broth and sherry and bring to a boil, stirring with a whisk. Reduce by half. Season with salt and pepper. Serve with the parsnip purée, honeyed cranberries and a green vegetable. **FOLLOW RICARDO ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON RICARDOCUISINE.COM OR SUBSCRIBE TO HIS MAGAZINE'S ENGLISH EDITION, WHICH LAUNCHED THIS SEPTEMBER!**

## Ingredients

### Parsnip Purée

- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup (57 g) butter
- 1 lb (454 g) parsnips, peeled and sliced
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) milk

### Honeyed Cranberries

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) honey

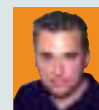
- 1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries

### Turkey

- 1 1/2 lb (675 g) turkey cutlets
- 1 shallot, chopped
- 2 tbsp (18 g) all-purpose flour
- 2 cups (500 ml) beef broth
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) sherry

## Liquid Assets

## Complement a busy meal



**LIQUID ASSETS**  
Peter Rockwell  
@therealwineguy  
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Short of using their juice to make a cosmopolitan cocktail, I've never had much love for cranberries.

While cranberry sauce may be a festive season staple, my palate finds its tart, tangy flavour unsettlingly dominant when it shares my holiday plate.

Typically a side dish, Ricardo's recipe this week is piled high with honeyed cranberry goodness, which makes it a perfect partner for a medium-bodied white wine like a Riesling.

As good as that sounds, I still prefer the big bird hitting my table covered in gravy and accompanied by an overabundance of veggies and a heaping helping of mushroom-laden dressing.

I reach for a Pinot Noir when it comes to a wine pairing for such a busy meal. A white wine lover's red, a good Pinot works with both the savoury and sweeter elements of any Christmas dinner.

New Zealand's Oyster Bay 2013 Marlborough

Pinot Noir (\$19.95 - \$21.99) is sustainably produced, with lip-smacking strawberry fruit, round earthy expression and long thick finish.

Happy holidays! **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



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**FREE THE  
CHILDREN**

# Beauty is in the eye of the holiday shopper



**Help your gal get all dolled up.** Check out these get-more-gorgeous gifts for her

JANINE FALCON  
For Metro

## Conair InfinitiPro 3Q Hair Dryer

Quick and quiet, this dryer delivers a super-fast pro-quality dry job with less damage, and lower heat. \$129 at Target, target.ca; Walmart, walmart.ca; and major drugstores.

## Kerastase Discipline

This at-home regimen supports a salon treatment that cuts down on frizz, blow-dry

effort and time. From \$40, kerastase.ca.

## Fresh Dare to Bare Lip Ritual Set

Kiss dry lips goodbye with lip scrub, conditioning lip serum, balms and moisturizing shine treatment. \$53 at Sephora, sephora.com.

## NARS Virtual Domination Blush & Bronzer Palette

Four flattering powder blushes plus the popular Laguna bronzer. \$75 at Sephora, sephora.com.

## Tweezerman Brush iQ Makeup Brushes

These handsome tools feature soft, synthetic bristles made of DuPont filaments. \$24 to \$85 at tweezerman.ca.

## YSL Palette Collector Wild Edition

This covetable palette houses shades for eyes, cheeks and lips. \$100 at Hudson's Bay, thebay.com; Sephora, sephora.com; and Holt Renfrew, holtrenfrew.com.

## Facial Cleansing Brushes

New facial cleansing systems are gentle on skin and kind to the wallet, too. Clinique, \$95 at Hudson's Bay, thebay.com; Philips PureRadiance,



\$149.99 at London Drugs, london drugs.com.

## Birchbox Canada

Finally here, this respected e-tailer curates prestige, niche and up-and-coming beauty brands, and introduces them via personalized sample boxes. Three-month subscription, \$44.85 flat rate at birchbox.ca.

## Crabtree & Evelyn Sensational Six Hand Therapy Musical Tin

Six popular purse-size hand creams in a keepsake tin that plays Sleigh Ride. \$35 at Crabtree & Evelyn, crabtree-evelyn.ca.

## Shupette Karl Lagerfeld for Shu Uemura

This creamy-powder Silk

Cushion Cheek colour playfully spotlights Lagerfeld's pampered kitty, Shupette. \$35 at Hudson's Bay, thebay.com; and Holt Renfrew, holtrenfrew.com.

Top, from left: Kerastase Discipline; Tweezerman Brush iQ Makeup Brushes; bottom, Crabtree & Evelyn Sensational Six Hand Therapy Musical Tin.

## Correction

The SousVide Supreme was incorrectly identified in last week's gift guide. Metro apologizes for the error.

6

shopping days left

# Well, hello there, handsome man

**Grooming gifts.** Great skin and hair products for the guy in your life

## Foreo Luna for Men

This sonic, waterproof, medical-grade silicone device delivers deep cleansing, skin conditioning, and facial massaging in just one minute. \$229 at Murale, murale.ca.

## Braun Series 5 Shaver

This electric razor boasts 20 per cent more power than previous editions

for more efficient results. From \$189 at drug, specialty, and mass retailers.

## Kent MG3NSM Military Brush

This hairbrush is made with shine-enhancing natural black bristles set in an oval beechwood base. \$30 at menessentials.ca.

## Philips Hair Clipper Series 700

This rechargeable unit has titanium blades, adjustable beard/hair combs and is double the speed of its predecessors. From \$49.99 at Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca; Walmart, walmart.ca; and Loblaws, loblaws.ca.

## Dr. Roebucks Body & Handwash

This niche natural brand features doctor-developed formulas suitable for sensitive skin. \$18.95 at Murale, murale.ca.

## Skyn Iceland Hydro Cool Firming Face Gels

Dosed with peptides and hydration boosters, these 10-minute-fix transdermal face patches soften forehead furrows and smile brackets. \$38.50 for an eight-pack at Shoppers Drug Mart, shoppersdrugmart.com; and Murale, murale.ca.

## Hermès Hermessence in Cuir D'Ange

Not your typical scent of smoky leather notes, this eau de toilette evokes "light, supple leather to clothe and shoe a winged god." \$260 at Hermès, canada-en.hermes.com.

JANINE FALCON/FOR METRO

Braun Series 5 Shaver



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# Make scents for the holidays

## Perfume and cologne. Top picks for 2014 holiday gift giving

MICHELLE  
WILLIAMS  
For Metro

The gift of fragrance is the perfect choice for the holiday season. It's intensely personal — "every time you wear a scent, you're reminded of the person who gave it to you," said Lee-Ann Hodgekins, theperfume-expert.com founder.

"Scent is also one of the strongest links to memory, reminding us of special moments and fond times."



### SEASONAL

If choosing a fragrance gift for that special someone this holiday season seems daunting, consider this one simple tip: Use the hints of the season and environment around you. "Think about the fiery colours of the harvest,

the crisp cool air, the dry woods and roaring fires," Hodgekins said.

"Also, think about the typical foods at this time of year: Dark berries, festive citrus, smooth caramels, toasted nuts, warming spices, and sweet intoxicating elixirs."

Here are some top trends and favourite fragrances for this holiday season:

Rose is always popular — this year's rose scents are deeper and richer. "Combined with deep woods, smoky nuances and decadent delights, these rose fragrances are ultra-alluring and perfect for those who love traditional scents, but also appreciate the more sexy and mysterious notes of perfume," Hodgekins said.

Lee-Ann's picks:

- **Aerin Lauder's Evening Rose** Combined with dark berries and smoky incense, this rose scent is the perfect romantic fragrance for winter, \$125.
- **The Body Shop's White Musk Smoky Rose** is a new twist on classic rose with hints of dry tobacco and comforting musk, \$17-\$25.



Lee-Ann's picks:

- **Coco Figue by Comptoir Sud Pacifique** A scrumptious mix of sweet fig, smooth vanilla and almond, \$44.
- **Vera Wang's Be Jeweled Rouge** Juicy winter berries combined with nutty pralines, backed by comforting musk and woods, \$49.
- **Victoria Secret's Victoria** Features two

trends: Rose and ripe berries, \$52-\$68.

- **Ralph Lauren Polo Red (for men)**: Festive cranberry mixed with warm amber, sweet saffron and rich coffee extract, \$78.

### ORIENTAL

Bold and powerful, it's the trend for those who don't mind being the centre of attention. "This year, they're much more opulent and at times risqué, featuring the traditional incense, am-

ber and spices, and turning it up a notch with pungent oudwood, sweet saffron, hot chili, and other herbs and spices from far off lands," Hodgekins said.



### Chanel's Egoïste (for men)

Rich rose paired with masculine notes of peppery spices and dry woods, \$103.

- **Paco Rabanne's 1 million (for men)**: Romantic rose with spicy cinnamon, vibrant orange, rich leather, and deep woods, \$66-\$88.

### FRUITY

Fruit for winter — dark, lush fruits prevail over

citrus and tropical scents of summer. "Notes of dark cherries, blackberries or plums are great for those who don't like heady florals or prefer more natural and earthy scents," Hodgekins said.



Lee-Ann's picks:

- **Guerlain's Shalimar** A legendary mixture of vibrant citrus, rose, incense and sweet vanilla, \$90-\$114.
- **Tom Ford's Black Orchid** New and unique, with sharp green patchouli and bitter dark chocolate, \$83-\$122.
- **L'Occitane's Ambre and Santal** Glowing amber and Earth sandalwood with smooth vanilla, rich rose, and fragrant herbs, \$75.
- **Viktor & Rolf's Spicebomb (for men)** An explosive mix of hot chili pepper, sweet saffron, glowing balsams, leather, and tobacco, \$45-\$135.

### SPIRITED

The season's most interesting trend — spirits like sweet rum, smooth whisky or gin are delicately combined with smoky tobaccos, glowing ambers and other decadent delights. "They're perfect for those who gravitate to more mature and sophisticated scents while also liking to try new things," Hodgekins said.

Lee-Ann's picks:

- **Carolina Herrera's 212 VIP** Intoxicating combina-



tion of sweet rum, vanilla, and passion fruit, \$68.

- **Tom Ford's Tobacco Oud (for men)** Earthy oud wood is mixed with bold tobacco, warm spices, and smoky whisky, \$235.
- **Bath & Body Works' Mahogany Woods** Rich woods and vibrant orange layered with sweet cognac and smooth bourbon vanilla, \$29.

From left to right: Bath & Body Works' Mahogany Woods, \$29; Chanel's Egoïste, \$103; Tom Ford's Tobacco Oud, \$235; Aerin Lauder's Evening Rose, \$125; Coco Figue by Comptoir Sud Pacifique, \$44; Ralph Lauren's Polo Red, \$78; Vera Wang's Be Jeweled Rouge, \$49.

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# Holiday shopping for a bookworm

**Page-turners.** See some of the top adult books of 2014 that make the best gifts

**BILL BEAN**  
For Metro

Sure, you can give a downloadable gift card, but why not a book? Consider the message it conveys; the identifier as "one who reads"; and the intimacy of touching the pages, each page a revelation.

## FICTION

**Adult Onset.** Anne-Marie MacDonald, \$32, Knopf Canada, hardcover. MacDonald's new novel delves into contemporary parenting, where anxious adults prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

**Girl Runner.** Carrie Snyder, \$29.95, House of Anansi, hardcover. The pursuit of one's passion as seen through the life of a 104-year-old Olympian whose body is confined but whose mind runs free.

**Stone Mattress: Nine Tales.** Margaret Atwood, \$29.95, Deckle Edge, hardcover. Canada's signature novelist, essayist and poet releases her first work in eight years, it's an event.

**All Saints.** K.D. Miller, \$19.95, Biblioasis, paperback. Linked short stories reveal the poignant challenges facing the parishioners of a tiny Toronto church.

**A Man Called Ove.** Fredrik Backman, \$30, Atria,

hardcover. A feel-good debut novel from Sweden about a curmudgeon and the chatty neighbours who move into his heart.

## NON-FICTION

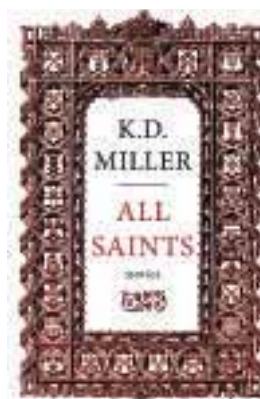
**Not That Kind of Girl.** Lena Dunham, \$32, Random House, hardcover. The creator of the acclaimed HBO series Girls offers a hilarious book of essays.

**Thug Kitchen.** Thug Kitchen (a.k.a. Michelle Davis and Matt Holloway), \$24.99,

House of Anansi, hardcover. For healthy eaters.

**This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate.** Naomi Klein, \$30, Knopf Canada, hardcover. This book will have people talking about the intersection of economy and environment.

**Flash Forward Tenth.** The Magenta Foundation, \$60. A compendium of the last decade of images from emerging photographers.



## Top children's books of 2014

Are you the crazy aunt or uncle stumped over what to delight your nieces and nephews with this season? Go for books. Nothing makes a room full of kids go quiet like a story being read or that they read themselves.

### AGE RANGE: UP TO 4

**Don't.** Litsa Trochatos (illustrated by Virginia Johnson), \$9.95, Groundwood Books, softcover. Clever picture book about why you don't let a cheetah drive your car, among other funny "don'ts."

**Sam and Dave Dig a Hole.** Mac Barnett (illustrated by Jon Klassen), \$16.99, Candlewick Press, hardcover. Two friends, two shovels and a hole that should be big enough for anything.

### AGE RANGE: 4-8

**Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin.** Chieri Uegaki (illustrated by Qin Leng), \$16.95, Kids Can Press, hardcover. With only three lessons under her belt, Hana counts on her love of music and her determination to succeed in the school talent show.

**The Good-Pie Party.** Elizabeth Garton Scanlon (illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton), \$18.99, Levine Scholastic, hardcover. When two BFFs have to separate, they realize that their favourite comfort food can ease the separation.

Who really has room for 10 lords a leaping?

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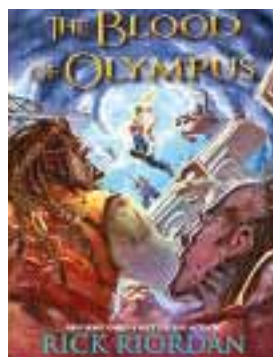
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### AGE RANGE: 9-12

**A Simple Case of Angels.** Caroline Adderson, \$16.95/\$9.95, Groundwood Books, hardcover/paperback. Nicola's adorable little dog, June Bug, keeps getting into trouble. Will doing a good deed make good on June Bug's bad behaviour?

### AGE RANGE: 12-PLUS

**The Blood of Olympus.** Rick Riordan, \$19.99, Disney-Hyperion, hardcover. Last of the series. **BILL BEAN/FOR METRO**



## The Contributors

Metro canvassed a number of "books people" to suggest 2014 releases they would give as gifts to adults and children this year. Here are the people who contributed:

- The Readers Advisory Committee of the Toronto Public Library; Melissa Bell, associate branch librarian, Richmond Hill Public Library; Michaela Cornell, communications strategist, Kids Can Press; Diana Krawczyk, Reader's Den manager, Mississauga Public Library (and chair of the Ontario Library Association's Readers' Advisory Committee); Cindy Ma, publicist, House of Anansi and Groundwood books; Carrie Snyder, CanLit blogger and author; 2013 Governor General award-winning children's author Teresa Totten; David Worsley, co-owner of independent bookseller Words Worth Books; Nora Young, host/creator of CBC radio's Spark; Josh Ziegler, public relations co-ordinator, Indigo Books; Carrie Dawber, children's librarian, Richmond Hill Public Library; and Melissa Bourdon-King, manager of Mabel's Fables Bookstore.



# Talk about high performance

**Screen time.** These smartphones have tons of features to please the tech wiz on your list

MIKE  
YAWNEY  
For Metro

Smartphones are a sure-fire way to light up a tech lover's eyes this holiday season. With so many to choose from, the only problem is deciding which one to buy. Here are some of the best performing smartphones and accessories for the techie on your list.

## iPhone 6 Plus \$859 and up (no contract)

It's thin, it's light, and is now the largest member of the iPhone family. The extra large 5.7-inch screen gives plenty of real estate to get work done. Apple has upgraded the camera with an improved sensor, resulting in stunning photos, especially in low-light conditions. The addition of NFC ensures you'll be able to use Apple's new mobile payment system, Apple Pay, when it launches in Canada.



## Samsung Galaxy Alpha \$699.95 (no contract)

It's the perfect smartphone for those who are fashion forward. This sleek, bold phone is less than seven mm thick, making it one of the thinnest phones released by Samsung. The Alpha can sense when the battery is getting low and will turn off non-essential functions to conserve power.

## LG G3

**\$599.99 (no contract)**  
The first smartphone in Canada to have a screen with four times the resolution of HD displays. The LG G3 features a customizable on-screen keyboard to help you type faster, plus a camera that uses a laser to focus in the blink of an eye. Those concerned about privacy will enjoy Knock Code, which lets users secure their device by tapping an invisible pattern on screen.

## Sony Xperia Z3 \$699.95 (no contract)

A smartphone for those who love photography. This waterproof and dust-resistant Android smartphone stands out from the crowd with its 20.7 MP camera and ability to shoot 4K video. On top of that, gamers who own a Playstation 4 can use the phone to take their gaming to another room with the PS Remote Play feature.



## Nexus 6

**\$749 and up (no contract)**

Looking for a powerful smartphone with a super-sized screen? The Nexus 6 features a six-inch display and will be the first smartphone in Canada to run Android 5.0 Lollipop. Dual front-facing speakers create immersive sound, plus you can get six hours of use from only 15 minutes of charging.

## BlackBerry Passport \$750 (no contract)

It may look a little odd, but for those who prefer a physical keyboard on their smartphone, there's no better choice. The 4.5-inch touchscreen shows more characters per line than any other smartphone to make reading easier. The keyboard is also touch enabled, so a simple swipe across the keys can scroll web pages and more.



## Ollclip 4-in-1 lens \$69.99 and up

Cameras on smartphones are wonderful, but their fixed lenses create limitations. The Ollclip allows you to get creative with your photos by adding fisheye, macro and wide-angles lenses.

## V-Moda Vamp Verza \$598

Not happy with the quality of music on your smartphone? This unique case not only powers your device with its built-in battery, it also converts your music files into analog for a pure listening experience.

Clockwise from top left: LG G3, \$599.99; Ollclip lens \$69.99 and up; iPhone 6 Plus, \$859 and up; BlackBerry Passport, \$750; Nexus 6, \$749 and up; Sony Xperia Z3, \$699.95; V-Moda Vamp Verza, \$598; Samsung Galaxy Alpha (gold), \$699.95.

## What's in Santa's hybrid sleigh

Looking to go green with your gifting this holiday season? Thankfully, today's retailers are offering more green products for consumers from which to choose.

## FOR THE STYLISTA

Looking to sport style that's green as well? **The Park Avenue Tote bag** isn't just stylish, but it's also made up of glazed vegan leather. It can pair nicely with the **Horny Toad Oblique Skirt**, an A-lined skirt that's made up of Horny Toad Samba fabric, a blend of Tencel and spandex. Or for a unique accessory, the **Ugly Sweater Rafiki Friend Chain** is made from recycled glass beads. But what about the man in your life? **The Defeat Aireator HT Lumberjack Socks** are made from recycled bottles.

## FOR THE FOODIE

The **Oh She Glows cookbook** is a vegan cookbook from blogger and chef Angela Liddon. And make your foodie's coffee runs more green by picking up a ceramic double-walled tumbler from the **Starbucks Re-usable Dot Collection**.

## FOR CHILDREN

Give your children some fun with squeeze-powered **Zoo Theme Eco flashlights**, which require no batteries. And if you have an older child, encourage them to think creatively about recycling with the **6-in-1 Solar Recycler Kit**.

ASTRID VAN DEN BROEK/FOR METRO

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# Go big or go home

**Time is of the essence.**  
You can wipe away guilt with an extravagant gift

**RICK MCGINNIS**  
For Metro

Chances are we all know someone who had their Christmas shopping done a month ago. They are organized, thrifty people, and while we might make contrite noises about following their example, chances are we never will, mostly because, deep in our hearts, we think their prudent approach to holiday shopping is not only smug and off-putting, but a subversive attack on the spirit of the season.

In a CIBC-Harris/Decima poll released last year, 69 per cent of Canadians admitted they hadn't finished their Christmas shopping four days before the holiday, while a further 22 per cent said they hadn't even started.

The Greek poet Pindar once wrote that "every gift which is given, even though it is small, is in reality great if it is given with affection."

But how much affection can there be in a gift ordered from a catalogue last January, stockpiled in the back of a closet without any idea who it was for, or sought out at sale prices?

A gift bought late is a gift bought after considerable thought. But there are people on our list who remain there until the eleventh hour because their wants are either modest or immense, or their good fortune and self-reliance means that they visibly lack nothing.

These people may be blessed, but when we're sprinting across a crowded mall parking lot hoping to find the last case of vintage Sauterne or hand-blown Nebbiolo wine glasses, we silently curse the day they entered our lives.

For most of us, the fall-back gift for these people is a gift card. Today, they come in every



Still searching for that perfect gift with little time left? Go big or go home with a new set of wheels. SHUTTERSTOCK

brand and denomination, and can be bought in the checkout line at almost any drugstore or supermarket. But what if the unchecked name on your list is someone who wouldn't be satisfied with \$25 worth of iTunes downloads or just enough cash to buy an impact driver from Home Depot?

Starbucks unveiled a \$450 US stainless steel gift card last year, named the Starbucks Metal Card, which will get you

a lot of coffee but not a lot of of envious looks from the folks in line who just want their latte before the last seat gets taken.

If we're honest with ourselves, we might be dragging our feet out of guilt, but nothing wipes away that feeling like a really extravagant gift. Raj Rajani, sales manager at Grand Touring Autos in Toronto, said that licensing and titles make it almost impossible to impulse buy a Jaguar, a Bentley, an As-

ton Martin, or a Range Rover from their showroom in the last hours of the 24th, but if you come in at least a day or two earlier, they will help arrange a really big surprise.

He said that parents buying for their kids will look at the Range Rover Evoque (\$75,000 and up), while husbands buying for their wives will go right to the Aston Martin Vantage (starts at \$140,000), the Bentley GTC (\$380,000 before options),

or the Jaguar F-type Coupe (starts at \$125,000), which is a big hit with older couples.

Sales staff at Grand Touring have oversized bows to gift-wrap the car, and will put on a little show for the spouse who gets dragged into the showroom "just to have a little look, honey."

Mostly, though, Rajani says that last-minute shoppers will take the keys home to put under the tree.

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\*Store hours and sales differ by location. 7pm – store closing sales supersede the earlier day sales. See in-store for sale details.



# Vital or novelty: You decide



Gentleman's Ice Tray,  
\$9, at Kikkerland,  
kikkerland.com.



Beer Making Kit,  
\$49.50, at Indigo,  
indigo.ca.



Shootout Gift Set, \$45,  
at Roots, roots.com.



Hockey Seat Pad, \$48,  
at Roots, roots.com.



Boot and Bottoms  
Up Beer Glass,  
\$19.50, at Indigo,  
indigo.ca.



Snowman Kit,  
\$50, at Roots,  
roots.com.



Slinky Dog,  
\$24.99, canada.  
michaels.com.



Paddle Ball Set, \$35,  
at Roots, roots.com.



Record Player,  
\$69.99, at Marshalls,  
marshallsonline.com.



Marbles, \$11.99, at  
Michaels, canada.  
michaels.com.

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# Dressed to the pines



Carole Tanenbaum  
Heritage Trees  
Collection, \$300,  
at AGO Shops,  
ago.net/shop.

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stelladot.com.



Stud Earrings,  
\$16.99, at Winners,  
winners.ca.



Pearls Please  
Necklace, \$134,  
at Banana  
Republic,  
bananarepublic.  
gapcanada.ca.



Casablanca Bracelet,  
\$84, Stella & Dot,  
stelladot.com.



Faux Fur Clutch,  
\$19.99, at Winners,  
winners.ca.



Shiraz Fur Cossack  
Hat, Jacques vert,  
\$109.00 at The Bay,  
thebay.com.



Fringe Mini Skirt,  
\$110, Banana Republic,  
bananarepublic.gapcanada.ca.



Gold Box Pleat Skirt,  
\$110, at Banana Republic,  
bananarepublic.gapcanada.ca.

Splatter Fit & Flare  
Dress, \$98, at Gap,  
gapcanada.ca.

Jolie Black Mesh  
Dress, \$109, Sears  
Canada, sears.ca.



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Jets defenceman Mark Stuart has a +6 rating through 32 games this season. GETTY IMAGES FILE

# Stuart joins Jets' black and blue line

**NHL.** 30-year-old American is the latest injured defenceman

Mark Stuart has joined the Winnipeg Jets' growing list of injured defencemen.

Head coach Paul Maurice announced after Thursday's practice that Stuart has a lower-body injury that will keep him out of the lineup until February.

Maurice said Stuart's injury occurred during a fight

with Buffalo winger Nicolas Deslauriers late in Winnipeg's 5-1 victory over the Sabres on Tuesday.

Stuart joins injured defencemen Jacob Trouba, Zach Bogosian and Toby Enstrom.

Trouba went out of the lineup earlier this week with an undisclosed "pre-existing condition" that will keep him off the ice until February. He was placed on injured reserve on Thursday.

Enstrom (lower body) could be back skating in early January, while Bogosian (lower body) may start skating in mid-

## Call for reserves

Defenceman Julien Brouillette was called up from the AHL St. John's IceCaps on Dec. 4 and will be in the lineup when the Jets host the Boston Bruins on Friday.

January, Maurice said.

"Clearly, it wasn't the news we needed to hear," Maurice said. "We don't have a lot of defencemen to spare at this point."

"It's the same line I gave

two, three days ago — this is our adversity. This is what we have to deal with. Every team will have their stretch.

"I haven't been in a situation where I've seen that number of guys that play at that level of your depth chart (out) for such an extended period of time. You can get into runs where you've got one or two of your top four out but two or three games. But this is quite a bit more significant."

Forward Evander Kane didn't skate at practice, but Maurice said he'll be fine for the game. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Hurricanes defenceman Jay Harrison checks the Islanders' Cal Clutterbuck in Uniondale, N.Y., on Oct. 11. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

## Jay Harrison. Jets trade for veteran defenceman

The Winnipeg Jets have acquired defenceman Jay Harrison from the Carolina Hurricanes in exchange for a draft pick.

Under terms of the deal announced Thursday, Carolina receives the Jets' sixth-round pick in the 2015 draft. That pick originally belonged to Ottawa.

The 32-year-old Harrison is reunited with Winni-

peg coach Paul Maurice, for whom he played in Toronto and Carolina.

Harrison had one goal and three assists in 20 games while skating at a minus-5 plus-minus rating this season — his sixth with the Hurricanes. Carolina entered Thursday night's home game against Toronto with a league-fewest 19 points.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## World juniors

### Sens loan Lazar to Team Canada

Curtis Lazar is leaving the Ottawa Senators to play for Canada at the world junior championship, a decision those involved consider a "win-win."

The 19-year-old Lazar gets the experience of playing against the best junior players in the world. Canada gets a polished top-six forward and the Senators hope to benefit down the road from the development their top prospect gets from his second of these tournaments.

"He's going to play a more prominent role," Senators coach Dave Cameron said. "With us, he's in the bottom six, playing a safe role. There he's going to be a go-to guy. That's a real world-class tournament on a huge stage, so all those factors are going to make him a better player." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## NFL

### Bears bench QB Cutler vs. Lions

The thought crossed Jay Cutler's mind as soon as he found out he was being benched: He might have played his final game for Chicago.

The Bears announced Thursday that they will start Jimmy Clausen against the Detroit Lions on Sunday instead of the man who signed a massive, seven-year deal at the end of last season.

The Bears (5-9) will miss the post-season for the seventh time in eight years.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Biogenesis scandal

### Steroids trial delayed till April

A federal judge has delayed the performance-enhancing drugs trial of Yuri Sucas, a cousin of New York Yankees star Alex Rodriguez. Sucas's trial relates to dealings with the clinic that illegally provided performance-enhancing drugs to baseball players.

U.S. District Judge Cecilia M. Altonaga postponed the trial from Feb. 9 to April 6 — the day the Yankees open at home against Toronto. Prosecutors say Rodriguez would be a witness at Sucas's trial. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Succeeding Mark Cohon

### Prince seeks CFL's commissionership

Skip Prince has thrown his hat into the ring to be the next CFL commissioner.

The Canadian Press has learned the former Montreal Alouettes executive has expressed an interest in the CFL's top job. Two league sources said Thursday that Prince has contacted the search committee mandated with finding commissioner Mark Cohon's successor.

CFL spokesman Jamie Dykstra wouldn't confirm either Prince's interest or Tom Anselmi's candidacy for the commissioner's job. There have been reports that Anselmi, the former Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment boss, has been approached about the position.

"Jim Lawson, the chairman of the CFL board of governors, has stated on the record that we have excellent candidates and the search for the next commissioner is going well," Dykstra said in an email. "Out of respect for the process,



Former Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment boss Tom Anselmi has also been linked to the CFL commissioner post.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

the selection committee has agreed to not comment on who those candidates may or may not be."

Cohon's final day as commissioner is Jan. 9, with Lawson scheduled to take over on an interim basis until a replacement is hired.

In August, Cohon announced he wouldn't seek a contract extension to remain on the job after his current deal ended in April 2015. The 48-year-old Chicago native succeeded Tom Wright as CFL commissioner in 2007 and signed a three-year contract extension in 2012.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Roughriders extend Ricky Foley's contract



The Saskatchewan Roughriders signed star defensive end Ricky Foley to a contract extension on Thursday. BRENT JUST/GETTY IMAGES

## Not ready to quit.

Foley puts off retirement for at least another year in Saskatchewan

On Thursday, the Riders signed 32-year-old defensive end Ricky Foley to a contract extension after one of the best seasons of his career.

With last week's signing of Tearrius George and John Chick being under contract, Saskatchewan has

## Still in the game

"We're still excited by what we're capable of."

Saskatchewan Roughriders defensive end Ricky Foley made 12 sacks and 54 defensive tackles last year but thinks he and the Riders can still do better.

solidified its defensive line heading into the 2015 campaign.

The Riders posted a CFL-high 61 sacks this past season.

Foley said he knew "about 15 minutes" after Saskatchewan fell 18-10 to Edmonton in the West Division semifinal that he wanted to return rather than retire or become a free agent Feb. 10.

"I think collectively as soon as the season was done and we realized we were going home ... the sombreness turned to almost anger, like 'Man, we could have won, we should have won, this sucks. OK we're coming back next year,'" Foley said during a news conference.

"I know me and T-George, we had a moment where we knew we would be better next year, and we were going to come back and do this." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# AUGMENTED REALITY

**Stuck on 12 Across?**  
**Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.**

See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.



## Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

### ♈ Aries

**March 21 - April 20**

In trying to find a solution to one problem, don't create several more. If you are not certain you know what you are doing, wait until Monday's new moon gives you a pointer.

### ♉ Taurus

**April 21 - May 21**

You will help those who need it today but there is a danger that you will rescue someone who will expect you to help them every time they get in trouble.

### ♊ Gemini

**May 22 - June 21**

You will be torn between conflicting duties today and whichever one you choose to prioritize someone is not going to like it. Forget everyone else and put your own needs first.

### ♋ Cancer

**June 22 - July 23**

You will be impulsive today and if you make it through to the weekend without emotional drama you will be very lucky.

### ♌ Leo

**July 24 - Aug. 23**

Someone in a position of authority will demand that you do things you don't want to do. Go along with what they want but start making plans to put some distance between you.

### ♍ Virgo

**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**

Someone will get on your nerves today and if you make it through to the weekend without losing your cool you will have done very well. They don't really mean to irk you.

### ♎ Libra

**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**

If you go after your target too directly or too forcefully today you may find it eludes you. You've got to bide your time and wait for the right moment.

### ♏ Scorpio

**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**

A loved one will demand you spend more time with them today. This is one of those occasions when if you're nice to them now they will be even nicer to you later.

### ♐ Sagittarius

**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**

Friends may not be as supportive as you would like them to be but don't let that stop you from pursuing your goals. You don't need anyone to endorse your ambition.

### ♑ Capricorn

**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**

You may think that certain people have got it in for you but more likely it's your imagination. According to the planets you have nothing at all to fear.

### ♒ Aquarius

**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**

If someone you have feelings for spends more time with others than with you today, don't get uptight. Maybe they are trying to make you jealous.

### ♓ Pisces

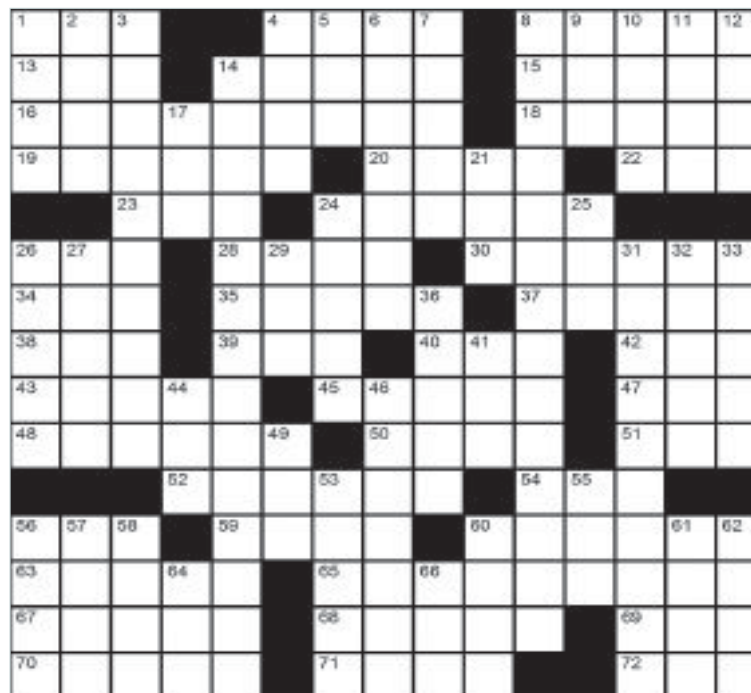
**Feb. 20 - March 20**

You can use your power to force someone to do your bidding today, or you can use your charm to persuade them to cooperate. The latter will be less problematic.

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

### Across

1. Clever
4. Dogs: "Gimme yer..." offerings
8. Become energized: 2 wds.
13. UK toilet
14. Everly Brothers: "Wake Up Little \_\_\_"
15. Employee's request
16. Yukon/Alaska river; or, Quilly creature
18. CC-138 Twin \_\_\_ (RCAP search and rescue aircraft)
19. Half-a-cardigan garments
20. R's followers
22. Sleeve
23. Tchaikovsky's 1892 ballet at #31-Down is based on the 1816 tale of this German author, \_\_\_ Hoffmann (b.1776 - d.1822)
24. A-bomb's 'A'
26. "\_\_\_ voyage!"
28. James \_\_\_ (Co-writer of Broadway musical Hair)
30. Pineapple: French
34. Approx.
35. Led Zeppelin's Robert
37. Brutal
38. Illinois city, briefly
39. Dr. Melissa \_\_\_ (Medical Expert on CBC's "Steven and Chris")
40. Parisian pal



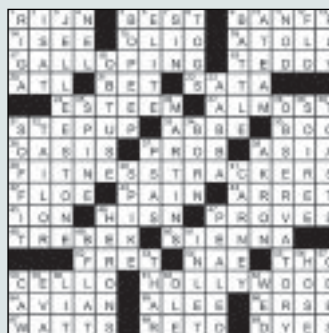
42. Literary monogram
43. Canadian actor Mr. Reeves
45. \_\_\_ diving
47. Crime fighter
48. Rita Hayworth's 1953 title biblical role
50. German-built car
51. \_\_\_ card (Grades-list)
52. Blazing

54. Renaissance painter, \_\_\_ Angelico
56. Hawaiian fish
59. NBA's 'A', briefly
60. Pants
63. Hawaiian island
65. Slick-spilling ship: 2 wds.
67. Awakened
68. E-Mail: Multiple-people-sending
69. Toronto summer

- hrs.
  70. Tale
  71. Idol alum Ms. Clarkson, et al.
  72. Cape Town's home [acronym]
- Down**
1. The \_\_\_ (Famous mountains)
  2. Winnie-the-What?
  3. Relentless, as rain
  4. Bitty Beagles
  5. "\_\_\_ recall..."
  6. Sir \_\_\_ Churchill Square, in downtown Edmonton
  7. Tend: 2 wds.
  8. Quebec's is known as the 'Fleur-de-lis': 2 wds.
  9. Feed
  10. Pocket bread
  11. Conniver
  12. Curls-from-a-box

14. Character in #31-Down: 3 wds.
17. Snip
21. Ethan's ex
24. Singer/songwriter Bryan born in Kingston, ON
25. Driver's need
26. Posh Spice's soccer star hubby David ...his nickname
27. "Romeo and Juliet" (1968) actor Milo
29. Pub serving
31. As per #23-Across... The \_\_\_ (It's currently being performed by The National Ballet of Canada)
32. Ancient fables guy
33. Snoozed
36. Neutral tone
41. British honour [acronym]
44. Cacharel perfume
46. Decorative moulding
49. Chicago trains
53. "Put \_\_\_ in it!"
55. Sprinted
56. Regrettably
57. Have, archaically
58. Get \_\_\_ shape (New Year's resolution)
60. Picking-up-passengers places, puny-ly
61. Canvas sneakers brand
62. Mlle. cousin
64. Broadcast
66. Small, shortly

## Yesterday's Crossword



## Online

See today's answers at [metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers)



## Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

## Yesterday's Sudoku



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